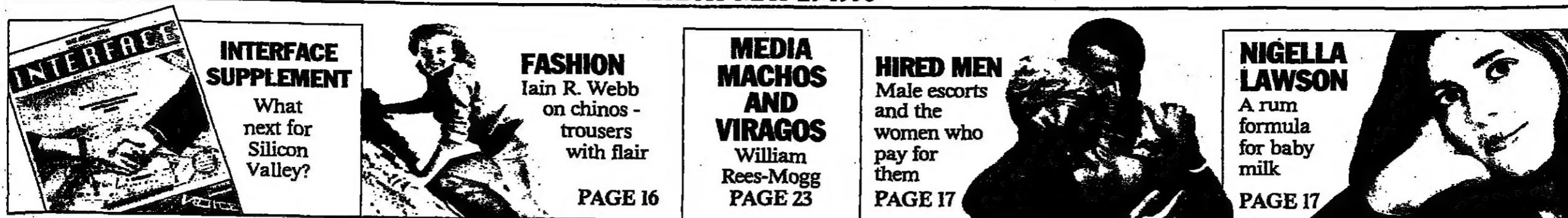


# THE TIMES

30P

No. 65,592

WEDNESDAY MAY 29 1996



DAVID DYSON

Tory states terms for keeping whip

## Britain turns the screw in beef battle

By PHILIP WEBSTER AND MICHAEL DYNES



Freeman: BSE crisis could last six years

BRITAIN escalated its "beef war" with Europe yesterday, wielding the national veto 12 times to scupper measures that would normally have sailed through.

But as ministers blocked everything that came before them in Brussels, the man in charge of the Cabinet response admitted that it could be six years before all Britain's cattle are free of "mad cow" disease — and even appeared to accept that the beef exports ban could last into the next century.

Roger Freeman later insisted that he had not meant to suggest the ban could last that long, but his remarks added to the confusion over the Government's policy and what it is trying to achieve.

At the same time, a former minister renewed his warning that he would wipe out the Government's Commons majority if John Major turned the beef campaign into a wider battle against Europe.

In an article in *The Times* today, George Walden spells out for the first time the circumstances under which he would resign the Tory whip. He says that if the Government "lurches blindly forward" beyond Mr Major's original objectives of a lifting of the ban on beef by-products and a "framework" for removing the broader embargo, it will do so without him.

Robin Cook, the Shadow Foreign Secretary, also urged ministers to avoid "the language of xenophobia and jingoism" over beef, but he nevertheless cautiously threw Labour's support behind the policy of non-cooperation. Ministers, however, swiftly rebuffed its demand for consultation over the conduct of the policy.

In his *Times* article, Mr Walden accuses Mr Major of "demeaning" the country and says the Government's un-

ited some ministers have predicted further desertions if Mr Major yields to the Right.

Mr Freeman — one of three ministers on obstruction duty in Brussels yesterday — insisted, however, that the policy was not "anti-German, anti-French, anti-Italian or anti-European". It was simply designed to force Britain's counterpart to realise the extent of the damage the blanket ban was causing the British beef industry.

But he accepted that it might be years before the industry returned to normal. "We acknowledge that BSE is a problem in the UK and in Europe, and it needs to be eradicated," he said.

Asked how long that could take, he said: "It won't happen in the short-term. It certainly is not months. Because of the gestation period, it could take four, five, six years. It may not be possible to say when the UK will be wholly BSE-free."

Mr Freeman acknowledged that Germany was demanding that the disease be eradicated before Britain could resume its export trade, but he said: "It may be possible to lift certain parts of the ban, with the support of our European Union partners, before arriving at that end state", although some countries may refuse to take British beef "until the last BSE cow has been killed".

But later Mr Freeman was forced to issue a statement clarifying his remarks. He said that he had not in any way been suggesting that the ban could last that long. He did not, however, clear up doubts over whether the Government wanted a clear timetable for an end to the ban.

Mr Walden's remarks came as pro-European ministers privately urged Mr Major to abandon his policy of non-cooperation at the earliest possible moment and to resist demands from the Eurosceptics for a firm timetable for withdrawing the ban before ending the blocking tac-

tical offensive. page 2  
George Walden and  
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ENGLAND footballers were last night at the centre of a police investigation into damage to the jumbo jet which brought them back from Hong Kong.

Damage to the Cathay Pacific 747 was confined to the area of the plane where the 27-strong squad of players were sitting in the upper business class section before they touched down at Heathrow early yesterday.

Cabin crew are understood to have become so concerned by behaviour on board the aircraft that the captain radioed ahead for police to meet the jet on landing. However, once the plane touched down it was decided a police presence was not necessary.

The airline made a formal protest to the Football Association in a faxed message to Graham Kelly, its chief executive, who was also on the flight, and last night Scotland Yard confirmed it was investigating an allegation of damage to the £80 million plane.

Neither the police nor Cathay Pacific would confirm the exact nature of the complaint which is understood to include damage to televisions in seats in the Club Class section. The incidents coincided with celebrations for the England footballers' twenty-ninth birthday.

Steve Double, an FA spokesman, refused to speculate on whether the alleged incident would jeopardise England's team selection for the Euro 96 tournament which starts in less than two weeks' time.

One passenger on board the flight from Hong Kong described how he went up to see the England squad to get autographs. He said the area looked like a "bomb site" but there was no evidence of any specific damage.

By RICHARD DUCE AND HARVEY ELLIOTT

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period," he said. A Scotland Yard spokesman said only: "Police at Heathrow are investigating an allegation of damage to an aeroplane which was received from Cathay Pacific airline."

A spokesman for the airline said the damage to the aircraft was "minimal" and the jet was returning to Hong Kong.

The players would have had some of the very best service during their flight. The airline's Marco Polo business class section has won a number of awards recently after it was relaunched two years ago.

The England squad would have had generous amounts of leg room and personal videos in English, Chinese, Japanese and Korean. Exotic dishes could have been washed down by copious amounts of champagne and wine.

Cathay won the 1996 Business Traveller Magazine Award for the best business class airline to the Far East.

Venables choice, page 48

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## MoD to sell Gulf War troops' gold sovereigns

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THOUSANDS of gold sovereigns given to British troops who were sent to fight in the Gulf War to help them bargain for their lives if caught behind Iraqi lines are to be sold by the Ministry of Defence for about £1 million.

In published accounts of SAS action behind Iraqi lines, special forces' soldiers were described as having gold sovereigns covered over by masking tape hidden behind their webbing belts.

Andy McNab, former SAS sergeant and author of *Bravo Two Zero*, the bestseller about

## Donor saves Nazi row Oxford chair

By EMMA WILKINS

OXFORD University's chair of European Thought has been saved weeks after the original donor, the grandson of a Nazi war criminal, asked for his money back.

An anonymous benefactor, who has no previous connection with the university, has guaranteed £350,000 over five years, a spokesman for the university said. The original endowment from Dr Gert-Rudolf Flick sparked protests from dons and Jewish groups.

Dr Flick's grandfather, Friedrich Flick, was an adviser to Heinrich Himmler and used £8,000 mostly Jewish

slave labourers to help him to build an industrial empire.

In April Dr Flick asked for his money back amid fears that there would be demonstrations when Professor John Burrow, the holder of the chair, gave his inaugural lecture. Dr Flick, who lives in London, has been at pains to distance himself from the activities of his grandfather, who was sentenced at Nuremberg as a war criminal.

Michael Pinto-Duschinsky, whose article in *The Times* last November initiated the debate, said he was delighted that the chair had been saved.

## Mastermind passes on punk band's B-word

By ALEXANDRA FREAN  
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

THE BBC's quiz programme *Mastermind* gets its first taste of censorship tonight when a contestant will answer questions on The Sex Pistols, the punk band that gave Western civilisation Johnny Rotten and Sid Vicious.

The corporation's language police have decided to bleep out an expletive uttered by Magnus Magnusson, the

programme's veteran quizmaster, during a question about the band's notorious album *Never Mind the Bollocks Here's the Sex Pistols*. A BBC spokeswoman said it was the first time in the programme's 24-year history that a question had to be censored. "It goes out before the 9pm family viewing watershed so we thought it would not be appropriate to include the word," she said.

She added that Mr Magnusson

retained his legendary sang-froid throughout the recording. "He is a true professional and did not laugh at all when he read out the question."

Alan Whitaker, 36, an unemployed barman from Penzance, who chose the 1970s band as his specialist subject, said he had bought a new copy of the album in preparation for the quiz. "Punk seems a little silly looking back, but being unemployed now I can still relate to that anger. I'm frustrated — I suppose that's why I went on *Mastermind*," he said.

Mr Whitaker added that his biggest worry about the programme was not the severity of the questioning, but his mother's reaction to his choice of specialist subject. "I think she might go spare when she sees this. I used to go out at weekends and get dressed up somewhere else, then take it all off before I went home to my parents, so they never even knew," he said.

Baby milk 'safe'

Baby milk manufacturers insisted that their products were safe as thousands of parents contacted their GPs. Page 8  
Nigella Lawson, page 17  
Letters, page 19

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Royal pa

Today's  
opportunities

## Loyal charities speak up for beleaguered Duchess

By ALAN HAMILTON

IN THE week in which her divorce becomes absolute and she relinquishes the title Her Royal Highness, the Duchess of York's small fistful of charities have rallied round to offer her their support.

Reports that the Motor Neurone Disease Association (MNDA) were dropping the Duchess, who has been their president for three years, were strongly denied yesterday by the charity and by the Duchess's own staff. The Duchess's three-year term as president comes to an end in September and she is involved in talks with the association on her future role.

The Duchess's office said yesterday that it was at her own request that she should not serve a further term as president, but that she wished to continue working for the charity in a different role, which had not yet been agreed. The charity said that the Duchess had been "of tremendous support", and had helped to raise £200,000 in the past four years.

The Duchess has expressed her desire and commitment to continue helping to promote awareness of motor neurone disease. The association welcomes this and is looking forward to continuing to work with the Duchess in the future," a spokeswoman said.

Other charities with which the Duchess is associated were anxious to offer her support yesterday, as she stood on the threshold of an increasingly uncertain future. Unlike other

royals, who hold huge portfolios of charity patronage, the Duchess is figurehead of only four other significant charities in Britain and one in the US.

Caroline Winterbottom, spokeswoman for Tommy's, the appeal for research into premature and stillborn births at St Thomas's Hospital, in London, of which the Duchess is patron, said yesterday: "We are very happy that she should continue with us. Without her we could not have raised £4.6 million in three years to help children in Bosnia, Croatia, Poland, Albania and Belarus. She is able to open doors for us that others cannot."

Ms Oxley agreed that the Duchess had suffered a great deal of bad personal publicity since separating from the Duke of York, but she said: "The overall effect on her charity work has been very positive, despite adverse personal coverage in the media."

Despite the loyalty of her charity managers, the Duchess's problems will not go

away easily. Faced with reported debts of £3 million, she has been told by the Queen that, as she can up those debts herself, she will not be bailed out from the private royal coffers.

Her hopes of paying off some of her debts through marketing of her *Budgie the Helicopter* books suffered a blow earlier this month when it was reported that ITV had cancelled plans to make a fourth television series based on the books, for which the Duchess has already been accused of plagiarism.

The financial settlement to which she will be entitled when her divorce is finalised tomorrow will do little to ease her predicament. The deal is believed to offer her a total of £2 million, but the bulk will be put in trust for her daughters Princess Beatrice and Princess Eugenie. The Duchess is further bound by a clause which prevents her writing a "kiss and tell" account of her ten-year association with the Royal Family, although she is said to be considering writing a book on how to be a single mother.

A spokeswoman for the Charities Aid Foundation, which advises charities on how to maximise resources, said: "There is no decline in the importance of the Royal Family as patrons and presidents. The relationship is firmly entrenched and it continues to be a valuable one. Royal patronage lends charities a great deal of kudos."



The Duchess after receiving a standing ovation at the MNDA conference in 1992

## Kensington Palace intruder bound over

AN INTRUDER who knocked on doors in the museum section of Kensington Palace in the middle of the night, demanding to see the Princess of Wales, was bound over yesterday to keep the peace.

The Princess was asleep in her apartments and unaware of the incident the early last Monday when police arrested Liam Whitney. Whitney, 36, was carrying a book about the Princess when he climbed over a fence into Kensington Gardens, a public park closed

at night, and scaled another fence into the Orangery, also open to the public during the day. He was arrested after knocking on the doors of buildings that do not come within the secure area patrolled by police.

Whitney, who lives at a South Kensington hotel, admitted a breach of The Royal and Other Parks and Gardens Regulations, 1977. He told police that he wanted to see the Princess but did not elaborate in court yesterday.

## Royal patronage covers full spectrum of worthy causes

By ALAN HAMILTON

AND MICHAEL HORSNELL

THE names of members of the Royal Family appear on letterheads across the spectrum of charities. The Queen is meticulous in not favouring one over the other but other members tend to take particular interest in their favourite cause. The Queen, patron or president of more than 750 charities, from Barnardo's to the RSPCA and the RNLI. She takes no significant

active part in any. There is no more desirable name on a charity letterhead.

The Duke of Edinburgh, even more charity-endowed than the Queen, his name is attached to more than 800 organisations, from Lord's Taverners to Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF), British Heart Foundation to the Variety Club, Outward Bound to Muscular Dystrophy. Active, engaged and volatile president of the WWF, Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother

is indefatigable at 95, with 35 patronages still under her belt from British Red Cross to the Guide Association, National Trust to the Tidy Britain Group. Especially close to her heart is patronage of the Injured Jockeys' Fund. Princess Royal: queen of the charity workers who works like a Trojan as president of the Save the Children Fund, helping to raise its profile and income into one of the leading global players in Third World aid. Also active in Riding for the

Disabled and the Butler Trust, which makes awards for good work among prison officers. Her title adorns a further 249 charity letterheads. Prince of Wales: king of the charitably concerned, the Prince lends his name to 507 organisations but directs most of his energy at his own invention, the Prince's Trust, an umbrella organisation founded on a shoestring in 1976 which now has a £30 million annual turnover and is one of the most effective

youth charities in Britain. Princess of Wales: when she "withdrew from public life" she did not go so far as to resign her charity patronages. Still with 126 in her portfolio, led by Great Ormond Street hospital, Centrepoint Soho, Relate (formerly the Marriage Guidance Council), National AIDS Trust and organisations for meningitis, lung disease, leprosy and Parkinson's.

Princess Margaret: a second division player these days with only 87

charities on her books. Usually seen at parades of the Guide Association, also lends her name to the Royal Ballet, St John Ambulance and NSPCC.

Duchess of York: only six significant charities — Chemical Dependency Centre, the Tommy's campaign for premature baby research at St Thomas's Hospital, London; Teenage Cancer Trust; Motor Neurone Disease Association and Children in Crisis, founded by the duchess in 1993.

## Buttonholed

A woman who runs an east London stall was ordered by Marlborough Street Court to pay £1,300 to the Oxford Street men's outfitter Cecil Gee. She damaged seven designer suits by snapping off 11 buttons to put on second-hand clothes.

## Cliff escape

A woman who fell 150ft down a cliff while out with friends in Tynemouth, Tyne and Wear, escaped with just a broken finger and bruises. Nora Garity, 47, of North Shields, was rescued by firemen who used ropes to reach her.

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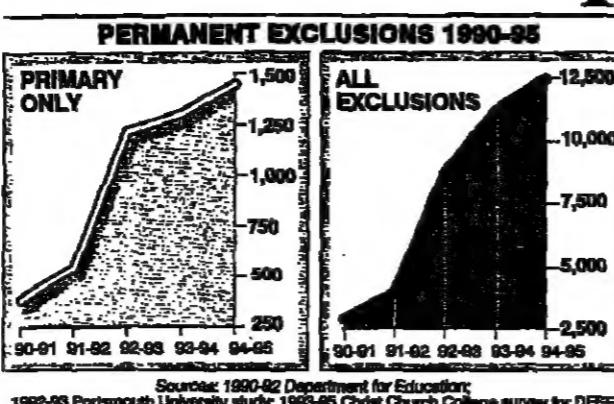
## Heads seek right to expel pupils with violent parents

BY JOHN O'LEARY  
EDUCATION EDITOR

SCHOOLS should be allowed to expel the children of parents who attack staff, head teachers' leaders said yesterday.

A primary school head who was injured in an incident with an irate mother claimed yesterday that such violence was becoming a serious problem. Liz Paver, head of Intake First School, in Doncaster, lost a tooth when the mother of a five-year-old girl who had been hurt in a playground accident drove off as she was leaning through her car window. "She left taking me with her and I lost a front tooth and injured my knee," she said.

Exclusions from primary and secondary schools are at record levels. But leaders of the National Association of Head Teachers said the children of violent parents should be added to the figures if an incident destroyed the relationship between school and family. David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, said he recognised that such a move would be seen as visiting



the sins of the parent on the child, but added: "It may be in the child's interests to get a fresh start in another school, where a better relationship can be established."

Mr Hart said the union would support any member who excluded a pupil after such an assault by a parent. Current legal advice is that an independent appeals panel would be likely to overturn an exclusion in such circumstances, but the union is lobbying ministers to issue fresh guidance. Margaret Morrissey, the spokeswoman for the National Confederation of Parent Teacher Associa-

came into school and scolded the boy and was still agitated when she left the premises, having been asked to leave the matter to the staff.

Mrs Paver followed because she felt the mother was in no state to drive and was trying to calm her down when she drove off suddenly. "It looks as if road rage and abuse in school have come together in this particular incident," she said. The police were informed, but were expected to limit any action to a caution in view of the mother's clean record.

Mrs Paver, a head for 20 years, will become President of the union for 1997-98. She said: "In the past five years I have had many more colleagues who have felt threatened by parents who, rather than consult on a way forward, have taken the law into their own hands. They see their child's needs above all the other members of the class, lose control and often resort to violence."

The union said there were 27 serious assaults on members in the past year — nine by pupils, 16 by parents and two by members of the public.



Liz Paver, a head teacher who lost a tooth after an altercation with a parent

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...will do rather well over here.

## Dyslexia assessed three years after boy's exclusion

BY LIN JENKINS

WHEN Marion Ward was told her six-year-old son Christopher was being expelled from primary school she feared his education would be doomed.

In the following three years the boy was expelled from a further three schools, assessed at a school for those with behavioural difficulties, sent at public expense to a private school and taught at home. Dr Ward had to convince education officials that Christopher was dyslexic and that his tantrums were manageable.

Most of the increasing numbers of pupils sent home from primary school have nowhere to go. They wait an average of 14 weeks before an alternative school is found or home tuition arranged. The latter option rarely gives children more than five hours of schooling a week, often in unsatisfactory surroundings of an overcrowded home with the distractions of pre-school children, babies, parents and their friends.

Dr Ward, a college lecturer, and her husband, Eric, a clinical psychologist, who adopted Christopher when he was five and in care, had an independent assessment, which found him of above

average intelligence, but in December 1991 one school called in social services.

"We were shocked," said Dr Ward, who resorted to teaching her son at home. "They said we were middle class and pushy."

Christopher was eventually assessed as dyslexic. He settled into a primary school and is now at secondary school. He has a laptop computer for his written work and four hours a week with an individual tutor.

Carl Parsons, of Christ Church College, Canterbury, author of a report on excluded children, found some children went without any education for up to a year. In other cases local authorities regarded two hours a week as their legal requirement towards primary age children.

The Education Act 1993 requires education authorities to provide "suitable full-time or part-time education" for those excluded. It defines suitable as "efficient".

Mr Parsons said: "That does not mean effective but means efficient in terms of the allocation of funds and most LEAs consider two hours a week to be the legal minimum, although some do provide three or five."

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THE TIMES WEDNESDAY MAY 29 1996

7

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SAB: THE SOLDIERS' STORY A CARLTON PROGRAMME PRODUCED BY

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# Rover gambles on including hidden costs in list prices

By KEVIN EASON, MOTORING EDITOR

ROVER will scrap separate delivery charges and similar extras on new cars next week. The move, which will add an average of £600 to the upfront cost of its cars but do away with "hidden" extras, will force other carmakers to end a practice that adds hundreds of pounds to list prices.

The company is the first big manufacturer to get rid of the added costs. Rover prices will go up from Monday, when the all-in price takes effect, but the company believes the long-term benefit will outweigh the short-term loss of advertising prices higher than those of its

rivals. Consumer groups have long campaigned against delivery charges, which range from £200 to £600, depending on model and manufacturer. A customer in John O'Groats buying a Rover Metro would pay the same delivery charge as a buyer who lived yards from the factory in Longbridge, Birmingham, where it is made.

Rover customers used to pay £421 for delivery, about £20 for number plates, from £20 to £30 for a tank of fuel, the first service costs and £40 road tax. Now only road tax will be separate, so buyers will

pay £421 for delivery, about £20 for number plates, from £20 to £30 for a tank of fuel, the first service costs and £40 road tax. Now only road tax

will be separate, so buyers will



The Jaguar XK8: £50,000 with no manual option

## Automatic choice for sporty Jaguar

JAGUAR will announce later this year that its new XK8 sports car will be made only with automatic gearboxes. A manual gearshift will not even be offered as an optional extra (Kevin Eason writes).

The company said yesterday that customers did not want to bother changing gear when a tiny on-board computer could do the job faster and more efficiently. Only 5 per cent of Jaguars are sold with manual gearboxes and the company is moving towards eliminating them from its cars.

Jaguar wants to drop manual gearboxes because they are now more expensive to build, heavier and less efficient. Manuals cost Jaguar about £200 more than an automatic but have to be sold more cheaply to customers who expect manuals as standard equipment.

The decision marks the

move away from the conventional H-shaped gearbox towards automatic boxes controlled by the flick of a switch. Vauxhall is experimenting with a small car with an automatic transmission run by a dashboard-mounted flick switch to make the car go forwards or backwards. The new generation of mini-cars, led by Mercedes next year, is also likely to use a new generation of computer-controlled electronic gearboxes that offer smoother driving and better fuel economy.

Jaguar decided to lead the way with its XK8 even though the car is described as the spiritual successor to the E-type, probably the archetypal muscular British sports car, which was launched in 1961 with a four-speed manual gearbox. The XK8, which will cost £50,000, will be seen at the British Motor Show in October.

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# Sales of flats trail detached houses in two-tier market

BY RACHEL KELLY, PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

DETACHED houses are selling better than cheaper flats, according to Government figures that suggest the emergence of a two-tier market. While the two categories each make up approximately 20 per cent of Britain's housing stock, Land Registry statistics show that 189,345 detached properties were sold last year, compared with 110,195 flats and maisonettes — respectively 24 per cent and 14 per cent of total sales. Detached houses sold for an average price of £104,719, flats and maisonettes for £59,603.

This is the first time the Land Registry has released such detailed figures, based on all 787,337 property sales in England and Wales last year. Computerisation has allowed the agency to collate the figures into four sectors: detached housing, semi-detached housing, terraced housing and flats.

The average price of a semi-

detached house last year was £60,350, a price which remained static throughout the period. The cheapest place in England and Wales to buy a semi was Lincolnshire, where the average price was £41,526. The most expensive place to buy was Greater London, where semi's cost, on average, £106,631. The average terraced house cost £51,193 last year. There was a very slight increase in the price in the third quarter, when it rose to £52,461, but it fell back by the end of the year to £50,300.

Prices were lowest in Mid Glamorgan — £31,171 — and most expensive in Greater London — £95,563.

The Land Registry figures show that 136,611 homes were sold at between £40,001 and £50,000, the largest number of homes in any price category, and 127,321 homes at between £50,001 and £60,000, the next largest. First-time buyers are getting older. Figures from the

Council of Mortgage Lenders

show that at the height of the housing boom in 1988, 33 per cent of first-time buyers were under 25. Now the figure is 25 per cent. Builders have virtually stopped building one-bedroom flats.

Yolande Barnes, head of research at the estate agent Savills, said: "There is less demand for smaller properties now than in the 1980s. First-time buyers are waiting longer before they buy, skipping the first few rungs of the ladder, and buying a small house rather than a flat."

The Land Registry figures suggest, however, that while more expensive houses may be selling more easily, prices remained static last year. Quarterly figures show that the average detached home cost £103,104 at the start of the year and £103,511 at the end. This is the first time that reliable figures covering the whole of the market have



tracked the prices of detached houses.

In the £50,000-plus bracket, only 547 houses were sold last year, from £50,001 to £60,000; 226 houses from £60,001 to £1 million; 30 from £1.5 to £1.75 million; and 39 at over £2 million. Gary Marsh, of the Halifax Building Society, said: "The figures show the dominance of the £30,000 to £68,000 price bracket.

## AVERAGE PRICE OF RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY SALES 1995

DETACHED HOUSE	
National average price:	£104,719
TOP TEN	BOTTOM TEN
Greater London £190,975	Byford £93,350
Surrey £165,244	Gwynedd £94,577
Hertfordshire £145,135	Lincolnshire £94,818
Buckinghamshire £149,220	Cheshire £99,408
Berkshire £148,883	Powys £70,499
Oxfordshire £134,796	Norfolk £74,482
West Sussex £122,584	West Glamorgan £74,847
Hampshire £120,144	South Yorkshire £75,463
Kent £116,054	Isle of Wight £75,947
Warwickshire £114,848	Mid Glamorgan £76,210

FLAT/MAISONETTE	
National average price:	£59,603
TOP TEN	BOTTOM TEN
Greater London £80,318	Northamptonshire £29,261
Surrey £62,315	Lincolnshire £30,602
Oxfordshire £59,982	Northumbria £30,712
Berkshire £54,087	Powys £37,043
Dorset £51,153	Mid Glamorgan £31,171
Hertfordshire £51,100	Bedfordshire £31,702
Buckinghamshire £51,142	Norfolk £33,022
West Glamorgan £49,963	Tyne and Wear £33,599
Cheshire £49,339	Gwent £33,780
Aveon £48,752	Shropshire £34,351

Source: Chel Land Registry

shire family seat of the disgraced Lord Brocket, is for sale for £15 million. The 18th-century, 80-room stately home, which has golfing and conference facilities, has been on the market unofficially for at least six months. In February, Lord Brocket, 43, was jailed for five years for a £4.5 million insurance fraud.

— Homes page 38

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# Island's wise monks profit from ways of the world

BY ROBIN YOUNG

IF THE canny Brother Cadfael, the fictional medieval monastic sleuth, were alive today he would surely feel at home among the monks of Caldy Island.

The 16 Reformed Cistercian brothers on the island, three miles off the Pembrokeshire coast, won nationwide publicity because of their decision to advertise their monastery on television this year as a tourist attraction.

Now they expect to raise the £300,000 they need this year — and every year — by increased sales of their perfumes, dairy products and chocolates to boatloads of tourists and by mail order. The free publicity in newspapers and on television that the island community has already received would have cost tens of thousands of pounds had it been booked through their advertising agency.

Their days might start traditionally — at 3.15am with four hours of silence — but the enterprising monks have come up with modern business practices. Brother Gildas, the community cook, was managing the monastery telephone yesterday. "We have to support ourselves and a total island population of about 50," he said. "The community has 16 brothers and 15 full-time staff, while other lay people work part-time and have to be paid."

The employees include John Catiny, the island manager, Gwyn "Blackie" Bolton, the farm manager, John Large, the dairyman who takes charge of producing the monastery's milk, butter, cream, yoghurt and ice-cream from a pedigree herd of 70 Jersey cows, and Frank Miller, who makes chocolates to an old-fashioned, classic blend which lingers a long while." Brother Gildas said. "The modern perfumes all hit you in the face and do not last long."

Another problem, Brother Gildas sees, is advertising. "Modern perfumes all tend to be advertised with references to sex and sexuality," he said. "We could not compete unless we used a picture of a nude granny on the beach. In fact our packaging is very plain."

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# Yeltsin outwits poll rivals with peace visit to Chechnia

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT YELTSIN yesterday attempted to turn his biggest electoral liability into his campaign trump card when he visited Chechnia and declared himself a messenger of peace.

In a stunning gesture of political showmanship, the Russian leader made a brief but symbolically important tour of the breakaway republic, thanking soldiers for fighting, promising civilians reparations and even accepting partial blame for the disastrous 18-month conflict which has claimed 30,000 lives.

Mr Yeltsin's unannounced visit took everyone by surprise, not least Zelimkhan Yandarbiyev, the Chechen rebel leader, who was still in Moscow to finalise details of the truce agreed by the two sides on Monday.

Tamara Zamyatina, a commentator for the Tass news agency, reported what no government official would dare to say publicly — that the

Chechen guerrilla chief was being held hostage for the duration of Mr Yeltsin's visit.

"By creating conditions under which Yandarbiyev and accompanying Chechen officials were 'being held' in Moscow, the presidential security service was able to be polite, observe protocol and ensure the security of both sides," she said.

Meanwhile in Chechnia, Mr Yeltsin made a quick but effective campaign tour, visiting a village, a Russian infantry unit and making a brief stopover in Grozny, the Chechen capital, which was badly damaged during the Russian siege last year.

He promised the civilian population federal funds to rebuild the country's infrastructure and finance new homes and businesses. He told soldiers of the 205th Motor Rifle Brigade that they had helped to "win the war".

To the people of Grozny he acknowledged "my share of the blame" for the "mistakes

and serious miscalculations".

Moreover, the Russian leader got what he wanted out of his four-hour tour — the chance to tell Russia that one of the bloodiest chapters in its recent history was coming to an end.

"My first impression from the visit to Chechnia was that peace has come to the republic not only on paper, but also in practice," Mr Yeltsin said at the end of his trip. "Not a single shot can be heard. This is the greatest pleasure both for the Chechens and federal servicemen."

Although his remarks were regarded as extremely premature, given that yesterday marked the first day of the latest in a number of ceasefires, his declarations completely wrong-footed his rivals in the presidential race.

Gennadi Zyuganov, the Communist Party leader currently falling slightly behind Mr Yeltsin in opinion polls, was forced to concede that the peace deal, although too late, was still good for the country.

Others could not contain

their annoyance that the Russian leader had succeeded in orchestrating the peace deal less than three weeks before the elections. Vladimir Zhirinovsky, the ultra-nationalist candidate, predicted that the truce would last only until polling day.

Mr Yeltsin would do well to bear in mind Mr Zhirinovsky's warning. Russian and Chechen negotiators inched forwards yesterday on their plan to demilitarise the region by withdrawing Russian forces and disarming Chechen guerrillas, and releasing all captives.

But the question of sovereignty at the heart of the conflict has not even been addressed. Mr Yeltsin yesterday insisted that Chechnia would remain part of the Russian Federation with special status and he vowed that rebels who continued to fight against Moscow rule would be eliminated.

"Not a single person in Chechnia will vote for Yeltsin because he destroyed our people. He is our enemy," said Natasha, a Russian pensioner, who lives in central Grozny. Her house was ransacked when the Russian army entered the city in January 1995.

She has not received any compensation.

Cynicism widespread in Grozny, still in ruins despite frequent pledges of restoration money from the President. "He will walk round the

airport and say he went round the whole of Grozny," Roza, a Chechen woman, who works for the pro-Moscow Government complained.

"I'll tell him that I've lived here for 45 years and look what he has done to the place, just reduced it to ruins," said Natasha, a Russian pensioner, who lives in central Grozny. Her house was ransacked when the Russian army entered the city in January 1995. She has not received any compensation.

Cynicism widespread in Grozny, still in ruins despite frequent pledges of restoration money from the President. "He will walk round the

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## Clinton abandons military defence in sex case conflict

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

BATTERED by a week of Republican ridicule, President Clinton abandoned yesterday his bid to delay a sexual harassment lawsuit by arguing that, as Commander-in-Chief, he enjoyed legal protection similar to that of soldiers on active duty.

Robert Bennett, Mr Clinton's lawyer, said he was filing a new brief to the Supreme Court that would rely on several other arguments which were contained in his original submission.

The retreat came after the Republicans began broadcasting television commercials during the Memorial Day weekend telling voters that the President, who avoided the Vietnam War draft was now claiming a serviceman's rights.

On Memorial Day five veterans ran full-page advertisements in 12 American newspapers declaring: "To retreat from the call to arms and then later embrace its code when it is convenient is an outrage to all who served."

Mr Bennett called those

advertisements a "grotesque and disgraceful distortion". He said that he had originally cited a 1940 law protecting active duty servicemen from having to defend themselves in civil lawsuits "primarily for illustrative purposes" and never as the core of the President's submission.

Paula Jones, a former Arkansas state employee, has accused Mr Clinton of propositioning her in a Little Rock hotel room during his term as Governor of Arkansas. Mr Clinton, who denies the accusation, wants the Supreme Court to overturn a recent Appeal Court ruling that the case can go to trial while he is still in residence at the White House.

Coincidentally, Mr Clinton yesterday announced new medical benefits for Vietnam veterans suffering from prostate cancer or nerve diseases caused by Agent Orange, the powerful herbicide used by the US military to flush Vietnamese guerrillas from their jungle retreats.

## Duke's visit to Gibraltar condemned

FROM DOMINIQUE SEARLE IN GIBRALTAR AND TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN MADRID

GIBRALTAR is preparing a warm welcome for Prince Philip who arrives on the Rock tomorrow for the first time in more than 35 years officially to celebrate the 25th anniversary of his Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

Madrid, however, is not pleased. Reacting to the Duke of Edinburgh's plans, Inocente Arias, the official spokesman for the Spanish Foreign Ministry, said that "the visit makes us very uneasy and unhappy".

This is the highest level royal presence here since the Prince and Princess of Wales arrived in the summer of 1981 to start their honeymoon, a move which had led King Juan Carlos to boycott the wedding. The Queen last visited Gibraltar in 1954.

Prince Philip visits the Rock at a time when relations with Spain over Gibraltar are tense. The bank holiday weekend saw six-hour queues at the border despite British demands on Madrid.



Kennedy: film may shed new light on assassination

## TV footage reopens file on Kennedy

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

conference two days before he was shot Oswald.

The 16mm film was rescued from a wastepaper basket in the newsroom at KTVI by an employee named Roy Cooper.

He kept the original and made a copy for his friend, Eli Sturges. The men had hoped to sell the footage to the highest bidder but failed and it lay hidden in Mr Sturges' home until his stepdaughter, Janet Veazey, handed the spool to the *Dallas Morning News* earlier this month.

Experts hope the footage, which is being transferred to the National Archives, will provide further insights into the killing. "This is significant historical film," said Richard Trask, an archivist.

## New chief takes over in Ukraine

Kiev: President Kuchma of Ukraine appointed Pavel Lazarenko as the new Prime Minister to replace Yevgeny Marchuk, who was sacked earlier for failing to achieve economic reform. Mr Lazarenko, who was born in 1953, was previously First Deputy Prime Minister. (AFP)

## Cops and robber

New York: A pickpocket chose the wrong target when he robbed two tourists in Times Square. They were Colombian policemen who chased and caught the man, turned him in and got back their \$300 (£200).

## Basques go to war over home for 'Guernica'

BY TUNKU VARADARAJAN

BASQUE nationalists called yesterday for the "repatriation" from Madrid of Picasso's *Guernica*, arguably this century's most famous painting, and for its permanent transfer to a new picture museum in Bilbao.

*Guernica* has seen skirmishes before. It hangs at present in Madrid's Reina Sofia museum, to which it was moved from the Prado museum in 1992 contrary to the artist's wishes. Picasso had decreed

that the painting should never hang in Spain while General Franco ruled, and it was not transferred to Bilbao, made recently by Iñaki Anasagasti, the parliamentary spokesman for the Basque Nationalist Party (PNV), could soon prove a problem for José María Aznar's Government, which relies on PNV support for its parliamentary majority.

The 1937 painting commemorates the destruction by aerial bombardment of the Basque town of Guernica during the Spanish Civil War.

request by the Pompidou Centre in Paris for its temporary loan. But the demand for its transfer to Bilbao, made recently by Iñaki Anasagasti, the parliamentary spokesman for the Basque Nationalist Party (PNV), could soon prove a problem for José María Aznar's Government, which relies on PNV support for its parliamentary majority.

The 1937 painting commemorates the destruction by aerial bombardment of the Basque town of Guernica during the Spanish Civil War.

## RUSSIAN ELECTIONS

On 16 June, 1996 there will be elections in Russia of the President of the Russian Federation. Russian citizens visiting Britain or permanently resident here have the right to participate. Voting will take place at the Embassy of the Russian Federation, 15 Kensington Palace Gardens, London W8 4QX (tel: 0171-223-3623), at the Trade Delegation, 32 Highgate West Hill, London N6 GNL (tel: 0181-340-1907) and at the Russian Consulate General, 58 Melville Street, Edinburgh EH3 7HL (tel: 0131-223-7098) from 8.00 a.m. till 10 p.m. Voters must have with them valid passport clearly indicating that a holder is a citizen of the Russian Federation.

Hatchpotch  
Hindu nation

Starvation cl

Albanian police beat Socialists

Tirana: Albanian riot police surrounded Socialist Party headquarters after beating opposition leaders at a demonstration against Sunday's general election, which some foreign observers have called unfair. The Government of President Berisha blamed opposition supporters for attacking the police. (Reuters)

Leading article, page 19

New chief takes over in Ukraine

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12 OVERSEAS NEWS

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Heat on Olympic staff as they race to prepare 'biggest thing in history of America'

## Atlanta faces marathon task before Games begin

WITH 50 days to go before the start of the centennial Olympic, downtown Atlanta is a mess. A small city with big ideas has already moved the Earth to get this far, but that has left heaps of top soil.

Builders worked overtime through last weekend's Memorial Day holiday. Bulldozers shovelled rocks and men with glue guns tried to repair pavements loosened by thunderstorms and Atlanta's shifting sands. The Olympic park is a dustbowl.

Can they be ready on time? "We have to be, simple as that," said Bob Brennan of the Olympic Games committee, "but there are bound to be nay-sayers right down to the wire." A.D. Frazier, the committee's chief executive, added that he sleeps like a baby: "Dream for an hour, then wake up and cry for an hour."

Dale, a recent arrival from Philadelphia, said: "These games are going to be great for business." But Dale was one of several tramps — ten in 28 hours — who asked me for money in Atlanta's "Olympic circle", the site of the hotels, shops and main arenas. The stadium has been built on the site of former public housing, but the beggars present a whiffy contrast to the antiseptic Olympic gaiety. Atlanta may need to do what Peking did before the 1990 Asia Games and jail the deadbeats until the show is over.

Atlanta's tramps like to lollap alongside you, making small talk. Two tried to flatter my presumed white liberalism — "thanks, mister,



Braving energy-sapping temperatures and a plague of beggars, Quentin Letts reports that Atlanta still has many hurdles to overcome

you're one of the few guys not to treat me like black dirt" — and all swore it was impossible to find work. That day's *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* had 30 pages of "help wanted" adverts. Nancy Ware, a restaurateur, had to import nieces and godchildren from around America and put them up at her house while they do menial work for her.

Temporary incarceration has befallen Billy Payne, the property lawyer who one

less night in 1987 first thought of bringing the Games to Atlanta. At the weekend Mr Payne was taken to hospital for surgery on a herniated disc in his neck. When he is discharged from St Joseph's hospital, some Atlantans want to ask him about the amount of public money going to the Games, which he said would be privately funded. It was reported last week that the public support will exceed \$810 million (£536 million).

Much of it will be spent on a security force of 31,000 people,

from federal agents for VIPs and the Clintons to local police, volunteers and undercover personnel. Officials from Atlanta have been to Israel for anti-terrorism training and there are fears that one of America's anti-government militias may attempt an IRA-style "spectacular".

Atlanta's climate could be equally destructive. On a May afternoon it reached 93F, a temple-thumping, polluted, humid heat that saps your energy. Late July will be hotter. Bill Taylor, a native Atlantan and environmental scientist, said: "I am delighted the Games are being held here, but in high summer? They're crazy. The marathon runners will collapse."

In mid-town, at noon, I asked for directions to a place less than a mile away. "Don't try to walk it," said a labourer behind the wheel of a Ford pick-up. I did walk it, at leisurely pace, but by the end my bones were weary and my shirt was soaked. "We will have first-aid folk at all venues and will tell visitors to carry water," Mr Brennan said.

The heat affected the Olympic torch relay in Missouri at the weekend when it dribbled from a canter to a trot, a jog, a slow shuffle and finally to a panting crawl. The aged runner appeared about to melt when she was urgently replaced. Back in Atlanta, a squad of cheerleaders rehearsed the opening ceremony in the 85,000-seat stadium. Their teeth were marshalled by all-American braces while their steps were choreographed by a man who looked like Sir Cliff Richard.

Mr Brennan said: "Atlanta has always been a hey-look-at-me city. We speak too often, perhaps, in superlatives, but this event is the biggest thing in the history of the United States in peacetime. Atlanta is going to be one of the 20 greatest cities in the world."

For all his optimism, however, Atlanta remains a cute Southern town boasting an equestrian statue of John Brown Gordon, Confederate general and leader of a hillbilly platoon called the Raccoon Roughs. The Olympic committee could use a few of those boys right now.

one that promises to do away with any mascot.

Palm-reading "Hand Identifier" machines will be used at high-security gates.

Officials will use more than 18,000 mobile telephones and walkie-talkies.

The swimming pools have a computerised "surge system" to reduce waves.

The computer network for the Games will be able to carry the equivalent of the information in *The Times* every day for the next 30,000 years.

The Olympic Village is within yards of America's greatest greasy spoon, the Varsity restaurant (est. 1928). Onion rings like lassos, chips with everything and barbecue pork which will add hours to sprint times...

pages so that immediately.

The mascot of the Atlanta Games is a silly little creature called Izzy (originally "Whatizit"). The next Olympic city may be



A tramp pitches for business in Atlanta's Marietta Street



1996

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American Jafer Johnson, Olympic decathlete, on the first leg of the torch relay

## Atheists call for vow of silence

AN ATTEMPT is being made to stop Georgia's evangelists from proselytising during the Olympics.

The Freedom from Religion Foundation attacked Baptist

officials to greet tourists with official Olympic hospitality packs including water, suntan lotion, peppermints and a "plan of salvation".

The foundation, a national group of atheists and agnostics, called the Baptist campaign "a blatant violation of

separation of Church and State, putting the power and prestige of government behind one denomination and one religion".

The Baptists hope to hand out their packages and uplift brochures at state-run rest stops. "Let them do it on private property," the foundation said in a letter to Zell Miller, Georgia's Governor.

The Rev Toby Frost, for the Southern Baptist Convention, replied that preaching was

permitted under "constitutional freedoms" and said he would welcome atheists to his rest missions.

Tourists arriving in Atlanta will find volunteers pressing them to discuss Christ. Atlanta is a fervent religious city and has more than 2,000 churches. Catherine Watson, an elderly Jehovah's Witness, dispensing religious literature on the street, said: "The Games will bring rich pickings for the Lord."

## False reef has surfers on crest of a wave

FROM GILES WHITFELL  
IN LOS ANGELES

SURFERS in California are riding high after an unlikely alliance of surfing enthusiasts and oil company executives announced plans to build the world's first artificial reef.

Designed to enhance the way a wave breaks, the reef will be made of 30 polyester bags, each filled with 300 tonnes of sand, to be submerged off Dockweiler State Beach in a giant "V". The idea, so far untested, is to restore the gradual, curling breaking pattern for which the Dockweiler waves were once famous.

Since the Chevron oil giant built a jetty in the early 1960s to link its nearby refinery to tankers offshore, the Pacific swell has been sloshing ineffectually onto the beach. The artificial reef is designed to meet incoming waves apex first. The wall of sand will slow down the bottom of a wave, forcing the top to break, spreading outwards as the wave flows over the "V".

The unusual edifice will not be fixed. It will be dumped from barges, one bag at a time, on to a plastic sheet the size of a football pitch, put there to minimise shifting.

Environmental groups and the Los Angeles County Department of Recreation and Parks have yet to give the experiment their blessing, but the omens are good: similar sandbags have been used to protect offshore drilling rigs.

Surfers are delighted. Officialdom has at last recognised that "rideable ocean waves are a resource to be protected", Steve Hawk, editor of a surfing magazine, said after provisional approval by the California Coastal Commission. Chevron has offered \$300,000 (£197,368) in funding for the project.



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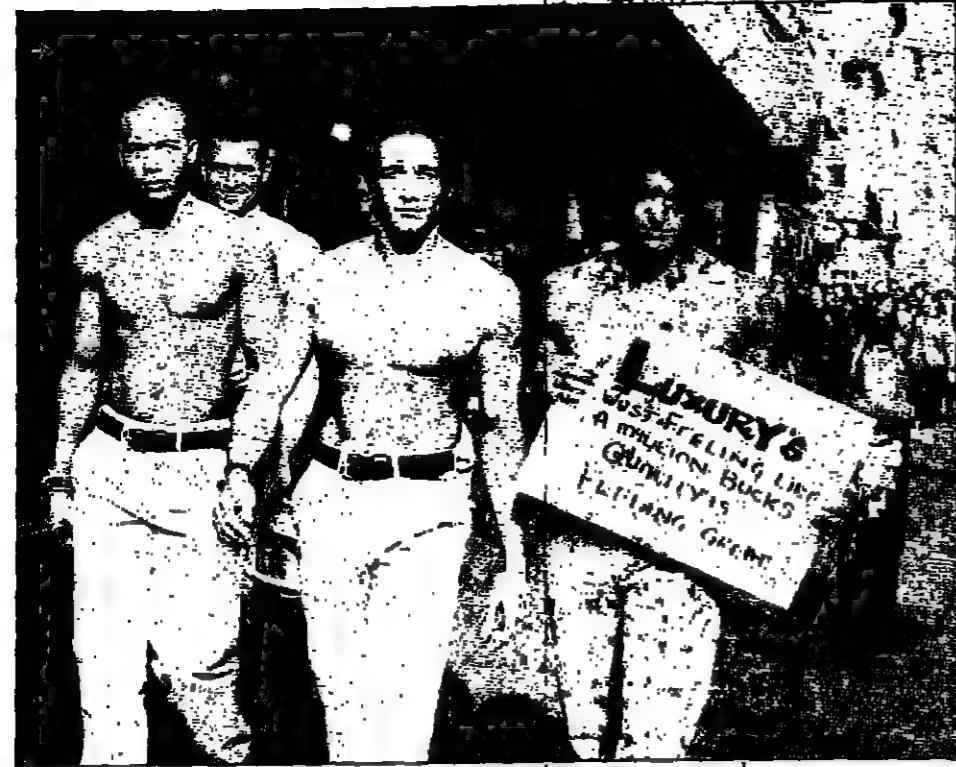
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# Look who's wearing the trousers



Levis Dockers: so popular that Levis claims six out of ten 18 to 35-year-old Americans wear them

THE LATEST advertisement for the swanky house of Chanel, synonymous with luxury and glamour, features models Shalom Harlow and Amber Valence. They are dressed in matching chequered jackets (pantel pink and sky blue, respectively) with shawl collars, flap-pockets, ribbon-edge binding and no front fastenings — the latest update by Karl Lagerfeld of Coco's original trademark design.

Each girl wears a pair of flat, two-tone MaryJane sandals: Harlow sports a white cropped vest revealing a leather and gilt chain belt around her waist. It is somewhat surprising to find that the bottom halves of both girls are clad in identical pairs of practical, down-to-earth chinos.

The sight of these utilitarian trousers in non-specific shades (they are available anywhere between off-white and khaki) and hardy cotton drill — first on the Chanel catwalk and then on the printed page — is enough to set alarm bells ringing at Vogue House. A trend definitely in the making: Lagerfeld is nothing if not a barometer of taste, and is always quick off the mark with the latest must-have item.

In America, Calvin Klein (another trendspotter) features larger-than-life chinos (or khakis as they are known there) in his latest CK Jeans collection. In the 1990s, it looks as if Klein will do for chinos what he did for blue jeans in the 1970s: make them sexy.

"It's about a casual sensuality," says Klein. "A new uniform that is an alternative to traditional jeanswear." Once again Klein's advertisements feature skinny teenagers wearing vastly oversized trousers. This is the hippest way to wear your chino pants, a take on the street style popularised by black Gangsta Rap singers and bands. It is also remarkably flattering: baggy, low-slung trousers offer the

illusion of being ultra-slim. Klein's models also come topless, as do the boys who wear Levis Dockers. Levis launched Dockers, its own line of chinos, in America in 1986. The brand has become so popular that the company now claims to dress six out of every ten men across the country between the ages of 18 and 35. There are four styles in 12 shades.



*Fashion journalist of the year*

IAN R. WEBB

The advertising campaign to launch the line in the UK features half-naked men strolling the streets in nothing but a pair of tough-looking Dockers and a sturdy belt. To accompany the print ads there is a spoof broadsheet newspaper which unveils "The Mission" — a manifesto against the formal conventions, rules and restrictions that make life uncomfortable and boring...". In it a spread features an image of a business-like briefcase repeated over and over under the

words: Get To Know Your Reality. It duly attacks conservatism, formality, conformity &c. Another spread, headlined "Imagine A World Without Uniforms", shows a Wall Street type in suit, collar and tie. The subtext reads: "If God created Man, the Devil designed his clothes."

The true origins of the chino are less ominous. Originally, British India exported khaki-coloured cloth to China, and then China sold it to Americans in the Philippines during the First World War. The Americans called the pants "chinos" because of their supposed Chinese origins.

In America, they became the favorite off-duty gear for Hollywood stars such as Gene Kelly, Marilyn Monroe, James Dean and Grace Kelly, who favoured the anonymous-looking item as part of their downplayed off-screen images.

The chino pants soon became part of the uniform of the preppy collegiate as portrayed by Ryan O'Neal in *Love Story*. Most popular in the 1950s and 1960s, they were usurped by the omnipresent jeans until the late 1970s, when they again came back into vogue. Their etable image is enduring.



Calvin Klein is doing for chinos in the 1990s what he did for jeans in the 1970s — making them sexy



CHANEL

Karl Lagerfeld puts Chanel models in check jacket and chinos

Chinos are still a firm favorite among campus kids. In her summer collection, the New York designer Anna Sui parodied the look, mixing Madras checked beanies hats, nerdy anoraks and chinos teamed with the ultimate preppy footwear — Hush Pup-

pies. Suede shoes have stepped back into style and are being worn by the pop elite. Blur and Oasis. Hush Puppies are available in Britain through Dolcis stores nationwide in tangy shades of orange, lime, purple and the more subdued khaki. The

1990s tie the jacket with a pair of denim jeans. This is more relaxed but at same time extremely classic. What could be more classic than chino pants?



GAP

GAP CHAMPS

Gap's advertising campaign uses Gene Kelly...



...and Marilyn Monroe in their off-duty Hollywood gear

PICTORIAL



Grace Kelly relaxes in the pants that Hollywood loved

PICTORIAL

□ Women's, cotton: £575, Chanel, 31 Sloane Street, SW1 (0171-235 6631).

□ Women's, cotton: £21.99, selected Dorothy Perkins (0171-291 2604).

□ Men's, £65, Katherine Hamnett Denim, 20 Sloane Street, SW1 (0171-523 1022).

□ Women's, cotton: from £30, The Gap (0171-518 6300).

□ Women's, gabardine: £65, Calvin Klein Jeans and leading stores.

□ Men's, cotton/rayon: £39, Nicole Farhi, 158 New Bond Street, W1 (0171-499 8368).

□ Women's, cotton twill: £32, Racing Green, 193-197 Regent Street, W1 (0345 331177).

□ Men's, cotton: £39, Mulberry, 41-42 New Bond Street, W1 (0171-491 3900).

□ Men's, polo classic: from £80, Polo Ralph Lauren, 143 New Bond Street, W1 (0171-491 4967).

□ Women's, cotton: £25, selected Debenhams.

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Manners from heaven: the escort has long been familiar in society circles. Nowadays it is married businesswomen who pay for company

## Pay and display: men who cost £75 an hour

DR THOMAS  
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outbreak

WEDNESDAY

**S**urely that handsome young man you sat next to at dinner last night can't be Lucifer's new beau? He isn't. He's the man from the agency. A friend of mine — public school and university educated, from a family whose name is blazoned in *Burke's Peerage* — has taken to turning a quick profit as a male escort.

As an 'unpublished writer', he is as much in search of copy as cash, so he skirts his way around the social scene on the arm of a woman who has hired him for the night. The oldest profession in the world, it seems, is catching up with the equal opportunities of our times.

The gigolo — a breed as boudoir as his hair is buffant — has been around since the 1920s. A dapper dresser in blazer and slacks, with sentiments shallower than his suntan, he has long been familiar in society circles. There was Joan Collins's erstwhile escort "Bungalow Bill" — so called because he had nothing upstairs, but plenty downstairs.

The lounge lizard is sloughing off his old skin and finding himself much in demand again.

**Rachel Campbell-Johnston on the Nineties gigolo**

Or there was Larry Fortensky, alias Mr Elizabeth Taylor Number Eight. His wedding present was to get his teeth and nails redone.

But the lounge lizard is sloughing off his old skin. I accompanied my friend one evening to meet his fellow escorts on one of their regular get-togethers in a bar in the Strand, in central London.

Manners fell from heaven. The hint of a cigarette raised to the lips brought on a rock concert flare of lighters. As I drifted through a haze of competing aftershaves, I came across a shy — and somewhat caged — young man who had come along to find out more about being an escort. A fuchsia spot of embarrassment blossomed on each cheek when I told him I was with *The Times*. "Don't mention my name in anything you

write," he pleaded. "I don't want my parents to know what I'm doing."

The next day a colleague approached me. "You met a friend of mine last night," he said. "I was at Eton with him and he phoned to ask me if I would ask you to please not mention his name."

Other escorts, however, were less shy about their work. Liam is 25. He was brought up in Kent and educated at private school and Sandhurst before joining The Blues and Royals. When he was injured in a fall from his horse he became a model, but with assignments few and far between he turned to escorting. Hired out at £75 an hour, he was first attracted to the job by the money.

He estimates that about 70 per cent of the women he takes out are married. "A typical client would be a travelling businesswoman," he explains. Alone in a strange city, a woman can find herself facing grim options when it comes to time to relax. In the bar she risks harassment from belligerent travelling salesmen. If she goes out to dinner, she falls prey to the sympathetic glances of coster couples. "If she hires an escort, she can go out and feel comfortable, unthreatened and in control."

Liam's agency, L'Homme, has nearly 100 escorts on its files. The escorts operate nationwide and range in age from 20 to 60 and in nationality from Australian to Afro-Caribbean. But once a client has chosen Liam — above Barry, for instance, from NW9 who is interested in aromatherapy and world affairs, or Clifford of Godalming who bashfully boasts "the cutest bottom in Surrey" — his first contact with her will be by phone.

"It is important to ask them what sort of clothes they want me to wear, whether it is casual or black tie," Liam says.

"I have been booked for a dinner dance, for instance, when the tickets had been bought in advance but the

With an  
escort a  
woman  
can go out  
and feel in  
control

London or needs a car, he borrows a Mercedes from a friend.

His client often gives him cash before they start out so that he can pay for taxis, drinks at the bar and cloakroom tips. He returns what is unused at the end of the evening. At dinner he usually chooses the wine, but tries to let the woman guide him regarding the price.

**H**e sometimes makes friends with his clients. During the past three months he has been going out regularly with the wife of an American businessman who is working so hard that he is too tired to go out at night. The couple have only recently moved to London and she has no friends here. Since she loves to salsa, she hires Liam to take her to Latin American clubs. "She is gradually beginning to meet people and soon she won't need me," Liam says.

Other engagements are strictly one-offs. One of Liam's colleagues was booked by a lesbian who had not yet dared

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to come out. She hired a chaperone to accompany her to her sister's wedding to save her from the clutches of aged aunts demanding to know when she too would find herself a "nice young man".

Does an evening end with nothing more than a decorous peck on the cheek? "The women who book me," Liam says, "usually want company and companionship. They want a good night out, or an ear for all their problems. I try to provide that. What happens between consenting adults is their concern."

At the end of the evening he was still up and I drank a whisky with him. It turned out that he knew someone in my old regiment and after that we got on well."

When Liam goes out he

always makes sure he is clean shaven and he wears a touch of aftershave. "It's the details that matter," he says, "things like clean nails and handkerchief and polished shoes."

Operating in London he usually uses a taxi to pick the woman up. She pays the fare. But if he is going outside or needs a car, he borrows a Mercedes from a friend.

His client often gives him cash before they start out so that he can pay for taxis, drinks at the bar and cloakroom tips. He returns what is unused at the end of the evening. At dinner he usually chooses the wine, but tries to let the woman guide him regarding the price.

**H**e sometimes makes friends with his clients. During the past three months he has been going out regularly with the wife of an American businessman who is working so hard that he is too tired to go out at night. The couple have only recently moved to London and she has no friends here. Since she loves to salsa, she hires Liam to take her to Latin American clubs. "She is gradually beginning to meet people and soon she won't need me," Liam says.

Other engagements are strictly one-offs. One of Liam's colleagues was booked by a lesbian who had not yet dared

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Parents have a right to all the information

## A rum formula

**I**s it arrogance? Is it stupidity? Is it cynicism? I cannot imagine what it is that makes the Government feel it is acceptable — and, what's more, politically wise — to keep mum over the precise findings of its own research into the levels of certain chemicals in infant formula milk.

The Government's mishandling of the BSE crisis — and it is its maladroitness that has made it into such a crisis — has made us all nervous and suspicious. Can a government minister truly believe that now, as he is questioned about the presence of phthalates in formula, is the time to tell us that "if we say things are safe, then that is what we mean"? Even to think of uttering such a remark shows a want of judgment, which is even more outrageous than the patronising high-handedness his answer also betrays.

I suppose in the first instance the concern must be whether there really is any danger in infant formula. Well, yes, we know the Government says there is none, but if, after all, its own research reveals that in some or all of the baby milk tested, there are present levels of chemicals which are known to have a feminising effect, potentially leading to reduced fertility in males and an increase in breast cancer in females, then clearly this is not some fantasy of an irresponsible press, as Her Majesty's ministers would like everyone to believe.

It's not that I believe the Government is not really protecting the interests of the manufacturers of baby milk, but also — more pointedly — those of the consumers, or rather the consumers' parents. If a baby is being fed on formula, then better not to worry about its mother about it. There is already enough sniffing about the unfairness of making mothers feel guilty about not breastfeeding in the first place.

Shortly after I had my first baby, a midwife told me about some research into feeding. Apparently there had already been what's happened to choice, to the public's right to information that already exists in order to make that choice? It's all very suspicious — but not surprising. This particular hypocrisy is not so much intrinsic to this Conservative Government, but to government itself.

I don't believe that a Labour government would behave any differently. All parties — as apologetics know — behave in the same way once elected. Openness is always more attractive to those in opposition than to those in office. As far as the politicians are concerned, the great British public is a useful rhetorical touchstone, but just a damned nuisance when it thinks it can start interfering with the real business of government which, after all, knows best.

In the present instance the Government concludes that there is no danger, therefore no need to know. This at the very least shows muddled thinking: our right to have access to any data cannot depend on what that data might be or where it might lead. But most of all, I can't help feeling it is a bit rum coming from the lot who have decreed that only the guilty insist on the right to silence and that the innocent need no such protection.



Nigella Lawson

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Alan Coren



■ I didn't know we were fighting for the freedom to break windows and heads

I had a good war, all in all. Picked up a bit of shrapnel, of course, but who didn't? There was a lot of it flying about, then. A chap didn't make a fuss.

"What's that, Coren?"

"Nothing, sir. Bit of shrapnel."

"Shrapnel, eh? Better let me take a look."

"It's only — oow!"

"What do I do to boys who pick up dangerous things?"

"You give them a clout with Old Tom, sir."

"I give them a clout with Old Tom. Correct."

My knuckles still smart in wet weather. What kind of quadman calls his stick Old Tom? Nobody in 2a knew for certain why our dear form-master had not been called up, but the strong suspicion was that he was being held in reserve in case Hitler pulled anything really nasty, eg, poison gas, in which event Mr Churchill would tear up the Geneva Convention, send a khaki Humber tearing round to Barnet Park Primary, and parachute the crazy bastard into Berlin if that ever happened, we gave Hitler ten minutes.

He returned the bit of shrapnel at the end of term, though, after I had made a poignant plea for it on the grounds that it had helped to demolish my grandfather's greenhouse. The greenhouse copped it during a night raid on the Fairley Aviation factory at Hayes, a mile or so from the grandparental Wembley semi where I was then billeted, and I can still smell the dust from the carpet inside the Morrison shelter in the dining-room being beaten into my nostrils by the concussions, and hear my grandfather tearing open the blackout curtains to see what the crash was all about, and shouting: "They've got the greenhouse! They've got the greenhouse!", as if it had been the Luftwaffe's sole priority. Dornier pilots five miles up cheering and congratulating one another on having at last wiped out the geraniums at 4 Copland Avenue, breaking radio silence to morsel the news to an ecstatic Goering, leaning out into the chill blackness to paint another greenhouse on the fuselage, turning joyously for home and Iron Crosses, arms linked, singing the Horst Wessel song.

Why do I suddenly think of all this. Now? Only because, after half a century, I went back to Wembley on Sunday evening for a bridge match, and we were a little early, so I drove around a bit in order to fascinate my wife with wondrous tales of vanished fish-parlour and Scout hut, and we went past the house I used to live in, and turned a corner into a similar quiet suburban street, and there came upon three Asian men putting up steel scaffolding, a dozen feet high, behind a front-garden wall.

But while we could see half of why they were doing this, because it had been done to houses on either side where the poles were now supporting heavy steel mesh, we couldn't fathom the other half of the why, which was the half about needing 12ft high heavy steel mesh in the first place. So I pulled over and got out and asked them, and with that wary politeness which decent folk reserve for imbeciles they pointed out that Euro '96 was just a week away and Wembley Stadium only half a mile from where we stood. Which meant that for the three sporting weeks between June 8 and June 30, their street would be filled with countless sportsmen keen to bung bricks through their windows. What kind of sportsmen? Distracted supporters of knocked-out teams? Enraged victims of ticket touts and forgers, left seething to vent their spleen on anything breakable? Mainland continentals, perhaps retaliating against John Major's War Cabinet? Well, no: for my old neighbourhood is now an Asian one, and where a generation back, it went in fear and trembling while Nazis smashed its glass, it goes in fear, in 1996, of exactly the same. Or, rather, almost exactly. The tiny difference is that the Nazis are British, now.

So count yourself fortunate, dear reader, that I have such little gift for irony. Otherwise, I might have made a bit of a meal of all this.



DÉJÀ VU

Peter Brookes

## On being bloody-minded

Major's Operation Moo is a phoney war, but neither side will give an inch

Yesterday a British expeditionary force crossed the Channel and established contact with the enemy. Fighting at battalion strength, Brigadiers Freeman, Oppenheim and Chalker penetrated the Berlaymont enclave, braving a withering fire of ridicule. They replied with salvoes of *non-sens*, *nein* and *ochis*. The enemy was surprised and took heavy casualties. It retreated to lick wounds of hilarity and amazement. The day went to our boys. Thanks be to God and St George.

The first engagement of the Great Beef War left a number of corpses on the battlefield. There will now be no further moves on Aids in the Third World, no help to Asian refugees and no steps to cut red tape for small firms. Ahead lie bolder horizons. British ministers will next fight efforts to curb Euro-fraud. They will veto a plan to counter drug dealing and improve liaison between police forces. With this salient secured, John Major may next commit his divisions against reforms to the common agricultural policy and a wider European Union. Europhobia is coursing his veins. The howls of the tabloids ring in his ears. No foreigner is safe from the thin red line of heroes when veto is in the air.

Never was it more true that politics is war by other means. The British Cabinet faces an enemy, has an objective and (we assume) has a war plan. The enemy is made up of the member governments of the European Union. The objective is ending the ban on British beef. The war plan is a secret, but Downing Street admits that there is a war cabinet and a secretariat in place. Hostilities have been brought forward from next month's Florence summit. Operation Moo is under way.

The first threat to any plan comes not from the enemy but from Generals Mis-handling and Hindsight. They have their uses. Back in March, when the BSE story broke, the Government found British beef instantly banned by the French, Dutch, Belgians, Portuguese and five German states. These bans were illegal. They were imposed by the relevant authorities with obvious glee, supported by farm lobbyists eager to wipe out competition. (This has proved counter-productive: even farm lobbyists can make mistakes.) Given the limited nature of the "provocation", the bans were a gross abuse of the collective unity of the common agricultural policy.

All trade bans are evil. They are usually imposed by governments to prove their virility to some interest group. But some may be necessary evils. I suggested in March a swift retaliatory ban on continental beef, bloody the noses of continental producer interests and to level the field for subsequent court action. If other governments chose gung-ho diplomacy to exploit Britain's tentative (and honest) scientific research into BSE, the best reply was more gun-boat diplomacy. A British ban against a country in which Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease is more prevalent than in Britain (such as Germany) would be as defensible as Germany's ban against Britain.

The fiasco could have gone to the European Court and awaited the outcome, with both sides bleeding.

We can argue all night over the "handing". It was inviting overreaction for the British Government to announce the BSE findings in that cauldron of hysteria, the House of Commons. But that does not affect the rights and wrongs. Had Britain retaliated at once, foreign governments would have protested that British scientists started all this. But the scientists specifically rejected any need for a ban. It was foreign governments who turned a scientific controversy into a war. They launched their bans before the EU veterinary committee had even met. They started this fight. Britain too had interests to defend. In diplomacy there is sometimes a virtue in being tough.

Mr Major did not take this route. He bided his time and had to watch mortified as the rest of Europe marshalled its forces against him. He retaliated only last week, and after the failure of the veterinary committee to lift the ban on British beef by-products. He eventually declared war over tallow and semen. That beats even the strange war of my name-sake's ear as an *strangeus causus belli*.

The form of British retaliation was not to hurt the instigators of the war, the continental beef producers, and so turn the enemy's flank. Instead, Mr Major

attacked the workings of the Council of Ministers. He did so with a flurry of briefing about a "war cabinet", knowing this would stimulate an odious xenophobia in the tabloid media. Downing Street cannot plead innocent on this account. It knew what it was doing. (I wonder what will be tossed to the Right next week: capital punishment or a Divorce Bill capitulation?)

All this and more is presumably set out in the war plan. European delegates are meant to gasp as Roger Freeman, Lynda Chalker and Peter Oppenheim patrol the Brussels committee rooms reading out their BSE message, like gay

rights demonstrators at an Anglican synod. The foreign ministers are expected to crawl home and plead with their farm lobbies to see reason and welcome British beef back into their freezers. I am at a loss to see why they should. French and German beef can be sold in Britain, but their producers are protected from reciprocal competition. If I were a continental farmer, I would not give an inch. I would pour cash into my consumer groups and lobbyists, insisting that British beef is unsafe and always will be, until every British cow is a cinder and every British farm is set aside for rambling.

Non-cooperation may be sufficient to the chateau generals of Downing Street, but it is not what I call war. The engagement seems phoney. It smacks of Tweedledum and Tweedledee: "Let's fight till six, and then have dinner." Concocts of Eurocrats must be smirking behind their hands. As for the war plan, its course seems indeterminate. The "framework" demanded by Britain of the Council of Ministers for ending the ban is unlikely to help British beef back onto world markets. Yet its compensation cost of £2.4 billion is indefensible. This cannot make sense. Such money would be better spent on marketing, when the hue and cry has died down, than on slaughter.

Simon Jenkins

British public opinion is not stupid about Europe. There is no poll that shows a majority of Britons wanting to withdraw from the EU. But when so-called partners on the Council of Ministers behave like hostile trading powers, Britons want fair play. When they do not get fair play, they want retaliation.

Yes, the British Government is in trouble domestically. What is strange about that? The same is true of most democracies. Since the days of the Common Market, the European Union has had to tailor itself to the domestic sensitivities of member governments. The sorry tale of the agricultural policy is one of weakness by all governments in the face of their farm lobbies. Behind that weakness lurk unmentionable monsters. Do not push the Germans too far in negotiation, British ministers are told. There is always a German election in the offing and dark forces are lurking in the shadows. Remember the French farmers and what terror they can strike in the streets of Paris. Never rock the Italian boat, for the Communists are waiting to take over. As for the Dutch, be kind to them. They are still in awe of the Germans.

And Britain? Britain is different. It is a land of settled government. Public opinion needs no referendums or recalls. When a British minister gives his word in negotiation, he carries the authority of a whipped Parliament and a deferential people. Britain sticks to the rules, implementing even the Brussels directives it detests. London is expected to accept whatever horror emerges from Europe. Politics may be the occupational disease of most democracies. Britain is supposedly immune.

This smug thesis has surely run its course. The same political virus is now raging through the British Government as through those of its European partners. A war has been declared. Mars has been awakened. He demands of those who summon him a most uncomfortable libation, either victory or defeat. We should leave aside talk of mishandling. Hostilities in the beef war were not opened by a scientist setting out a conundrum. They began with a French customs officer ripping apart a British beef lorry without legal authority. That is what sent British forces into Belgium yesterday. They have gone as fools. They had better come back as heroes.

Where the Tories and I may part

George Walden on what would make him resign the whip

When I announced that I would not wish to be a member of a super-patriotic Conservative Party, and that in certain circumstances I would be forced to consider leaving myself, I did not expect laudatory commentaries in the press. In our febrile atmosphere, I expected my views to be travestied and given an anti-patriotic spin, and I was not disappointed.

The Times portrayed me in an editorial as a Euroskeptic affiliated with the values and attitudes of an Enraker, who is out of touch with the popular mood. It cannot be that there is a non-Euroskeptic argument against nationalism, so critics must be converted into Euroskeptics. "If you are not with us you are against us" is an unprintable maxim for our major national newspaper. Equally tasteless are low allusions to foreign doctrines and connections.

Under the nationality test currently in progress, I can lay claim, though a non-cricketer, to all the patriotic virtues. I am opposed to further integration with Europe, and was one of the first to speak of a referendum on a single currency (which I also oppose). Unlike John Redwood, Michael Portillo and Norman Lamont, who were in Government at the time — though they could have resigned — I did not go into the Maastricht lobby without public demur, and abstained on a number of votes. Now as then, my view is that it was a treaty too far. My forebodings that Maastricht would produce nationalist tensions are coming true.

As for my alien instincts and doctrines, it is true that I have worked for my country as a diplomat. My experience fortified my belief that British sanity and sense of proportion are our major assets, on which much of our international influence rests, or rested. As for the talk about Enrakers, the position is worse than my critics supposed. I spent a year at the Ecole Nationale d'Administration (ENA). That is one reason why I am opposed to centralising policies and mandarin attitudes, notably over Europe. When consulted by the Prince of Wales a few years ago about setting up an ENA here, I strongly objected, insisting that the last thing we need are more senior administrators, and that what works in one culture may not transfer to another.

On beef derivatives (God help us) my position is close to that of the sagacious Lord Rees-Mogg and no less sagacious Peter Riddell, stalwart patriots both. Our national position is unswerving and will rebound on our reputation, and against a Prime Minister who felt weak enough to succumb to his own pique and to petty nationalist pressures. In so doing he has demeaned us all. Patriots are not supposed to make fools of their own people.

I have a farming constituency, and although the farmers support the Government's actions I have heard not a single chauvinist word from them, or from the farmers' union. Like me, they know where the problem started, and do not pretend otherwise. Nor do they underestimate the difficulty of lifting a ban while consumers abroad lack confidence in our products. I have heard farmers, patriots to a man, expressing embarrassment at jingoism. To paraphrase Carlyle, when the very tailors become *sans-culottes*, it is time to take note.

As for my intentions, the first is to oppose the rancid Little Englandism that has gripped the country by whatever means I can, if only because a noisy and peevish Little Englander is a most ridiculous person. To bring down the Government over tallow would be ridiculous too. Equally it would be absurd to subject my constituents and endlessly tolerant Conservative Association chairmen and agent to a beef-by-election.

Moreover, should it go in the Government's favour, which is not impossible since my vote has increased over three elections to 62 per cent, the victory would give the Government a boost, so encouraging our nationalists to greater endeavours. Even Enrakers and mandarins, you see, can understand low politics.

But these are reveries. I shall continue to vote with the Government because I believe that most of what it is doing is right, and because I am not attracted to Labour or the Liberal Democrats. But for me, policy towards Europe is a defining issue. The Tories have weapons enough against Labour — the single currency, the veto, the social chapter — without plastic Union Jacks made in Taiwan.

The issue which could cause me to say farewell to the party is not easy to predict. If the Government does not know where it is going, how can I? The danger is that it has got itself into a position from which it cannot win. The pressure on John Major not to fail the cricketing test by "seeing it through" will be great. When he gets his derivatives victory, as no doubt he will, or his bit of paper promising a "framework" to lift the ban, I predict cries of "Chamberlain". The Times among others will say that it is not enough, and that he is flinching from the main battle. If he doesn't succeed with beef, it will say the same.

For the moment, I grouch and bear it. But if Mr Major is goaded into widening the assault and extending non-cooperation, instead of hard negotiation, the future of the EU, then I reserve my position. My ultimate test is, what Dr Johnson — he who scoffed at "piedian patriotism" — would have done. Should the Government lurch blindly forward against an adversary only dimly defined through the fog of nationalist rhetoric engulfing it, then, as our German friends say, *ohne mich*: without me.

## Princely some

**BIG IDEAS** are not strange turf for the Prince of Wales, but the disclosure on this page by the man of the moment, George Walden, that he once considered setting up a British equivalent of the French Ecole Nationale d'Administration represents a step up in thinking. The ENA, set up by de Gaulle to train the generation of post-Vichy civil servants, is maligned and mythologised across Europe.

Graduates include the French President, Jacques Chirac, the Prime Minister, Alain Juppé, and legions of mandarins and technocrats.

To its admirers, the ENA is the ultimate finishing school, producing top-notch administrative plumbers, the sort who devour briefings for breakfast. To its detractors, it is a nursery for sneaky Eurocrats with paternalistic mega-schemes for Europe and the morality of a hundred Tallyrandys.

Unsurprisingly, in the Seventies, Ted Heath instituted a programme for Whitehall high-flyers to attend the Ecole for a year, learning the dark arts of French administration.

"It is most odd that the Prince considered setting up an ENA in Britain," says a perplexed Euro-

peptic MP. "The place only ever produces the Euro-crazy sort who manipulate their leaders rather than serving them."

• Poor George Best. Fifty last week on the wagon, and now being stood up at the pictures. The other day, he was spotted at his local cinema in Chelsea, frantically tapping his watch, his men gloomy. After much pacing around, he finally entered alone

*I'm not leaving my Brussels sprouts — I'm boycotting them*

**DIARY**

just before the start of the film, a thriller called *Copacat*. "He left just before the film finished," says an observer. "Perhaps he didn't want to be seen leaving alone."

### Into touch

WICKENHAM is on the march. The latest victims of the new stony-faced professionalism of rugby union are the primary school children of the London suburb. For 26 years they have had their sports day at the famous local stadium. Now the Rugby Football Union, which runs the place, have booted them out in favour of more lucrative bookings.

Having endured the heavy traffic brought on by the RFU's empire-building, locals have had enough. The talk in the hydrants is now of picketing. The RFU attributes its action to

a problem with its turf reseeding programme after extra fixtures. But Martin Vassallo, chairman of the local primary school sports association, thinks this a feeble excuse. "I feel for the children, because to see them run onto that famous pitch is wonderful," he says. "But this seems to be the way rugby is going."

ANOTHER misfire from Europe. Offering a two-for-one price on trips to Paris, the company sent out packages to 100,000 customers. On the package was a picture of a red rose. Inside was a carrot, an advertiser's gimmick to underline the generosity of the offer. Bad idea.

By the time the freshly dug carrots reached their destinations they were black, mildewed and less conducive to thoughts of a romantic break in Paris. Eurostar's marketing director, Mark Furlong, defends his decision. "They were only in the container for two or three days," he says. "and it was never our intention that the carrot was something to keep and cherish."

• I hope the organisers of Chichester Cathedral's weekend flower festival have a sense of humour.

**And stick**

ENTITLED "Darkness into Light", the show is in trouble after an extended power failure.

**Bad turn**

NOT SINCE Mathias Rust touched down in Red Square nine years ago has there been a story to match. Mark Jefferies' weekend foray into Polish airspace. Jefferies, 37, a former British aerobatic champion, was buzzing around with two other aircraft at an air show east of Berlin. One wrong turn, according to Polish authorities, and Jefferies had back-flipped his Yakovlev II some three miles into Polish airspace.

P.H.S

**SURPLUS**  
The Defence Ministry

... of the Second World War, Poles are not much amused by the sight of two Russian planes and one German zooming in on them. Within moments, the wires were screeching, with Poland's top brass firing off messages to the show's organisers.

"Chalkie" Jefferies, who once destroyed an instrument panel with his head during an abortive take-off, is dismissive of the accusations. "We could see the ground and didn't, as far as we could tell, cross the border." The Poles do not agree and the matter is to be investigated by British authorities.

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## A VOICE FOR ULSTER

Why Conor Cruise O'Brien brings hope to the North

Twenty-two years ago, representatives of Ireland North and South, nationalist and Unionist, tried, in the shadow of a Berkshire golf course, to secure a stable constitutional settlement in Ulster. After the Sunningdale talks, Ian Paisley saw a sell-out and Gerry Adams brought back the gunmen. A generation later those two men have hardly moved. But one man who tried to make the Sunningdale agreement work, although he knew well its flaws, has come far.

Conor Cruise O'Brien, an Irish nationalist and minister in the Dublin Government during the Seventies is now, at the age of 78, fighting a new political battle. He is standing in tomorrow's elections to the Ulster peace convention. This former nationalist now hopes to represent the Unionists in another series of talks to determine Ulster's future.

Dr O'Brien's odyssey is the story of reason, sympathy and democracy winning out over blood and myth. And few are more supremely qualified to speak on this issue either by intellect or sentiment. His study of Edmund Burke, *The Great Melody*, is one of the finest analyses of that beguiling combination, the liberal and the conservative. Both men share Irish birth, a sympathy for the oppressed, a feeling for tradition and, through those characteristics, a message for today. If Northern Ireland is to find peace it should find a place for Dr O'Brien at the table.

When he sat in the Irish Cabinet, Dr O'Brien tried to secure peace on the basis of Sunningdale, with power-sharing in the Province and a Council of Ireland to transcend the border. But already he knew that while power-sharing was a far from perfect but worthwhile attempt to escape from past mistakes, undermining the wish of Ulster's people to remain British was counterproductive.

As a Catholic and a liberal he sought to move Ulster beyond sectarianism. But as a democrat he recognised that it was the

sincere and settled wish of Ulster's majority to remain within the Union. Since then Dr O'Brien has moved from sympathy for Unionism, to vocal support, and now to standing for the United Kingdom Unionist Party (UKUP). He has risked the dislodging and beheading words of Dublin to stand up for the principle that Ulster's future should be settled by democrats, not dictated by terrorists.

Both as journalist and politician, Dr O'Brien has consistently penetrated Sinn Fein's empty formulas. He has argued that the revolutionary soldiers of the IRA may sometimes change tactics but never their violent and undemocratic intentions. He has been called a Cassandra and suffered her cold comfort. When the IRA ceasefire ended with the murder of two innocents he was proved, sadly, right.

The UKUP is a new party, founded by Robert McCartney, MP for North Down and a successful barrister born in working-class loyalist Belfast. Unlike many sons of the Shankill he is resolutely opposed to the Protestant triumphalism of the old Unionism. His party is non-sectarian, pluralist, and committed to making the Union work. The UKUP's stance has seen the Ulster Unionist Party of David Trimble place a Catholic on its list of candidates for the peace poll. But for Unionists who prefer constitutional to confessional politics the UKUP, Mr McCartney and Dr O'Brien will be an attractive alternative.

Their intervention, and that of a host of other parties who claim to speak for the Unionist majority, has led David Trimble to give warning warn of a "shredding" of the Unionist vote. There is a danger that moderate voices will be marginalised. But, in the longer term, the Unionist embrace of voices such as Conor Cruise O'Brien's — tolerant, intelligent and Catholic — will make it more likely that the greater number in Ulster who believe in the Union will win the stability that the Province needs.

## TURKEY IN TROUBLE

Secular forces must combine against the Islamic threat

Turkey is one of the most vital members of the Atlantic alliance, a country whose regional and geostrategic importance to the West has grown considerably since the break-up of the Soviet Union, the fighting in the Balkans and the Gulf War. Yet for the past six months, since general elections in December, the country has been rudderless, unable to form a stable government and beset by the bickering of politicians.

Yesterday Mesut Yilmaz, the embattled Prime Minister, insisted he would not resign unless his former coalition partners, Tansu Ciller and her True Path Party, were able to make a deal with the opposition Islamists. His defiance was an attempt to rally Turkey's squabbling secular politicians and unite the Centre-Right against the Welfare Party, the largest single block in Parliament, which Necmettin Erbakan, its Islamist leader, insists is on the point of gaining power. Were it to do so, more than 70 years of secular politics would be at risk. Ataturk's legacy, including post-Ottoman Turkey's Western orientation, political moderation and social progress, would be thrown into jeopardy.

Mrs Ciller, fighting corruption charges and resentful of what she regards as betrayal by Mr Yilmaz, with whom she initially formed a coalition, is in no mood to listen. Her party is now flirting with the Islamist opposition; underlining its centre-right views and playing down the deep division over the role of religion in politics. Her tactics are cause for concern, within Turkey and abroad.

The Welfare Party maintains that it is neither fundamentalist nor anti-Western. Such claims need to be examined sceptically. It is true that since the party captured control of Istanbul in local elections, it has not enforced the kind of puritanical regime its opponents prophesied: rather, it has had

some success in reforming social services and reducing corruption. Nevertheless, the party's roots go deep into Turkey's past. It draws on a rural, Islamic tradition never completely suppressed by Ataturk, and has been reinforced by young radicals inspired by the example of Islamic activism elsewhere in the Middle East.

A win by the Welfare Party would send a shudder throughout Nato. It would call into question many of the fundamental assumptions that have made Turkey such a steadfast ally. Ankara, under Mr Erbakan, would also certainly renounce the recently signed military co-operation agreement with Israel — an agreement denounced by Mr Erbakan in terms so unpleasant that they verged on outright anti-Semitism. In seeking to strengthen its Islamic identity, Turkey could side with Arab opponents of the Middle East peace process; it might turn a blind eye to Islamic terrorists seeking shelter; and it would probably cease to be the linchpin on which the West's enforcement of the no-fly zone over northern Iraq rests. The future of American bases in Turkey would be less secure, as would Turkish commitments to Nato. And Turkey's responsible restraint in its quarrel with Greece would be turned to militant bullying.

Alarm would be raised not only in the West. The Turkish armed forces, the guardians of the secular Ataturk legacy, might be tempted to intervene — a dangerous move at a time when Turkey is using its regional power to set an example to Central Asia. Mr Yilmaz is due to meet President Demirel tomorrow. He should tell him that he will resign and set about immediately forming a new and durable coalition with Mrs Ciller. Only by setting aside their personal animosities can they give Turkey the responsible leadership it deserves.

## SURPLUS TO REQUIREMENTS

The Defence Ministry makes a good income from its disposals

Pssst... wanna buy a used howitzer? Off the back of an army surplus lorry? Or even the lorry itself? The Ministry of Defence has embarked upon the sale of the century — or at least the second such. The end of the last World War spawned the first big disposal of surplus kit: the end of the Cold War is bidding fair to match it.

Between 1945 and 1950, the Services sold off 885,000 lots over 2,450 selling days: equivalent to a non-stop auction lasting for nearly seven years. Civilians were delighted to bid for Forces gear when so little food, clothing and equipment could be bought on the open market. And the quality of goods issued to servicemen was higher too.

But that soon changed. Army gear became so ill-designed that many soldiers took to buying their own. In the Falklands War, those soldiers who suffered from trench foot looked enviously at their comrades who had bought their boots from camping shops. The Army-issue windcheaters swished, the packs were heavy and the sweaters scratchy. Civilians might from time to time have adopted army surplus gear as a bargain fashion item; but it was not much good at its primary purpose of keeping its occupants warm and dry.

The new kit, called Combat Soldier 95, is

now as high-spec as the lurid gear that ramblers and mountaineers sport to irritate country-dwellers. When this hits the army surplus stores, civvies who would rather blend in with their surroundings than advertise their presence will rush to buy it. Meanwhile, however, the huge stock of other gear that was built up during the Cold War to ensure that Britain could fight an instant battle is starting to hit the streets.

Last year the Disposal Sales Agency netted £78.6 million for the taxpayer in job lots ranging from frigates to combat jackets, minesweepers to navy rum. This new executive agency, set up in 1994, appreciates the value of stock that used to be sold for a pittance. By bringing in private-sector contractors to match buyers with surpluses, the agency managed to make more money for the Ministry of Defence in three days last year than it had in the previous 12 months of auctions.

Usually the running-down of stocks is seen as a sign of recession. In the Ministry of Defence it is a sign of peace. Purists should not sneer at the heavy marketing, complete with certificates signed by General Sir Peter de la Billière, of gold sovereigns issued to special forces in the Gulf War. Of such good husbandry are tax cuts made.

## Judges' discretion when sentencing

From Sir Frederick Lawton

Sir, Simon Jenkins is wrong in suggesting (article, May 25) that the cause of the judge's disapproval of the Home Secretary's proposals for automatic life sentences on a second conviction for some violent crimes and minimum ones on a third conviction for domestic burglary and some drug offences is that they see them as an attack on their profession. They do not. They see them as an affront to the justice which is their function and duty to safeguard. They regard themselves as the Queen's delegates to perform the part of her Coronation Oath whereby she undertook "to cause law and justice in mercy to be executed in all [her] judgments".

It may be difficult for those who have not spent their professional lives in the courts to appreciate that those who have really do believe that on the evidence in each case they should identify what justice in mercy requires to be done. This is what matters to them, nothing else.

Were I still a judge it would go against my conscience to sentence an offender, whatever previous convictions he may have had, to life imprisonment for causing grievous bodily harm with intent, an all too common offence, if the evidence had shown, as it sometimes does, that he had been provoked into a momentary loss of temper.

Nor would I willingly sentence to a minimum of three years' imprisonment a socially inadequate and penniless man who, living in a hostel, had walked into another's room, broken open the gas meter there and stolen the contents. Under the Theft Act 1968 in some circumstances this would amount to domestic burglary.

Thankfully, being in retirement, I shall never have to pass sentences which I believe to be unjust.

Yours truly,  
FREDERICK LAWTON,  
1 The Village, Skegness, York.  
May 25.

From the Home Secretary

Sir, Simon Jenkins makes two errors which invalidate his conclusion.

First, it is quite wrong to suggest that my proposal for an automatic life sentence for repeat sexual or violent offenders is "a straight shift of power" from the judiciary and the Parole Board to Home Office ministers and officials. Home Office ministers and officials will have no role in the new sentence.

The trial judge will set the "tariff" — the minimum period of imprisonment to be served. Near the completion of the tariff, the Parole Board will assess whether the offender still poses a risk to the public. If he does not he will be released; if he does he will not.

In this way the public will be protected from the most serious offenders in a way that simply does not happen now.

Simon Jenkins suggests that the figures in the White Paper for the sentencing of repeat burglars were specially selected to support my proposals. The figures in the White Paper were the most up-to-date then available. Further figures for periods after the 1991 Act had been repealed and figures for earlier periods before the 1991 Act had been implemented show a very similar pattern of sentencing.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL HOWARD,  
Home Office,  
50 Queen Anne's Gate, SW1.  
May 27.

From Mr Leslie G. Leek

Sir, I believe that, with his unprecedented attack on Michael Howard's policies, the retiring Lord Chief Justice has set a dangerous precedent. The majority of the public who believe that the law favours the criminal classes and fails to support the law-abiding.

In every community there are individuals who constantly flout the law and are free within hours to commit similar offences, making decent people's lives a misery.

When they are eventually sentenced to dersory terms of imprisonment they have no fear of prison with its lax regime and know that parole, remission and home-leave schemes will very soon see them back on the streets again. Everyone should back the Home Secretary and help us to rid society of persistent criminals.

One thing is sure: criminals cannot harm the rest of us when they are locked up.

Yours etc.  
LESLIE G. LEEK,  
Trelawney House,  
St Ives,  
Cornwall TR26 2DE.  
May 23.

From Mr Martin Walker

Sir, With at least 600,000 private investors applying for shares in Railtrack (report, Business, May 20) surely it is part of our Government's re-election strategy to believe that a significant number of these investors will now vote to protect their new shareholding in the next general election. The wallet is an important consideration for the floating voter.

Yours faithfully,  
MARTIN WALKER,  
6 Bramley Close,  
Pill, Bristol, Avon.  
May 27.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9KN Telephone 0171-782 5000

### Judges' discretion when sentencing

From Mr N. J. D. Baptiste

Sir, Anatole Kaletsky ("Economic consequences of the 'war' against Europe", Business, May 23) considers that informed opinion has moved too far towards Euroscepticism. However, many would draw the opposite conclusion from his diagram showing the relative real exchange rates for five leading countries compared with Britain.

In spite of the huge competitive advantage gained by Britain following the sterling devaluation after leaving the ERM, our total trade (visible and invisible) with the other EU countries showed a deficit of £4.6 billion for 1995. Our total cumulative trade deficit with them since 1973 now stands at around £95 billion.

As a result of the declining growth rate of the continental EU countries which is likely to fall below 1 per cent on present trends as pre-EMU budget reductions increase, only 44 per cent of our exports now go to the EU, while the last quarter's figures suggest they will fall to less than 10 per cent for the complete year.

The cost of "achieving" such a dire result — for which directors of a plc would have been shown the door by shareholders — was a net contribution to Brussels, after rebates of some £3.5 billion in 1995, plus the loss of national sovereignty over large areas of our national life.

It therefore appears deeply illogical that CBI leaders should consider that there is no alternative to Britain's membership of the EU — especially as two thirds of our industry's investments are overseas while it has spent over £7 billion in the last year in buying more than 100 companies in the US. Trade with the Far East is also rising and profitable.

By contrast, Norway's membership of the European Economic Area provides it with full national sovereignty, low inflation, a substantial trade surplus and the highest growth rate in

tended, many never to be seen again.

But I can also understand why those behind the Saro-Wiwa campaign are not interested in the torture and brutal murder of my father and the three others in broad daylight and the ritualistic dismembering, burning and eating of their remains. These victims were not leisureed enough to make regular visits to Europe and America, or rich enough to make expensive, cunningly filmed and edited documentaries to charm gullible liberals in the West.

Such distortions need to be corrected. Peace and reconciliation in Ogoniland will largely depend on the recognition by Saro-Wiwa's supporters that under Nigerian law "human rights activists" or "minority rights campaigners" have no right to take the lives of others.

Yours faithfully,  
KEITH ROBINSON,  
The Wilderness,  
Littlewick Green,  
Maidenhead, Berkshire.  
May 23.

From the Home Secretary

Sir, I was interested by your report of May 15 [see also letters, May 22] on the £170 million proposal to refurbish the South Bank and the hope of a £127 million contribution from the National Lottery.

Earlier that day I had visited a school in Bradford where the education of half the 460 children is carried out in seven "temporary" huts of appalling safety with serious health and safety hazards and little or no security.

This is not an isolated example: there are 500 such huts in use in this area and no doubt many more throughout the country. The Government's capital investment in Bradford as a whole this year is £41 million — just 3.2 per cent of the hoped-for lottery money for the South Bank.

Living wills

From Mr James Bogle

Sir, The effect of making "living wills" legally binding on the medical profession is seldom appreciated (letters, May 3, 10, 16). Doctors would be obliged in many cases to substitute bad clinical practice for good, since they would be compelled by law to follow a prescription signed by a now incapacitated patient, perhaps years earlier, and not what is clinically best for the patient's condition in the present.

This applies equally to the proposed continuing powers of attorney, where a non-medical attorney could oblige the doctor to abandon good clinical

practice in the donor-patient's case.

Moreover, the attorney would not ipso facto be bound by the strict standards of the medical profession or any other.

"Living wills" are not currently binding in law. An advance statement is often very helpful to a doctor, but only the contemporaneous consent or refusal of a patient is binding and "living wills" are, by definition, not contemporaneous. It is important for doctors to be clear on this matter.

Yours sincerely,  
JAMES BOGLE,  
Hanover Chambers,  
Hanover Road,  
Tunbridge Wells, Kent.  
May 18.

From Mr N. J. D. Baptiste

Sir, I am very pleased that Iraq has agreed with the UN (report, May 22) a system whereby Iraqi oil can be sold, humanitarian supplies purchased for distribution to the Iraqi people under international supervision, compensation paid to victims of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and help given to the Kurds in northern Iraq.

However, there appears to be no specific agreement to assist the Shia Arabs in the cities around the marsh area of southern Iraq. If this is the

case we urge Her Majesty's Government to get help for these people included in the agreement without further delay so that they can be compensated for many of the ills inflicted upon them by the Government of Saddam Hussein.

Yours sincerely,  
EMMA NICHOLSON

(Vice-President),

United Nations Association of Great

Britain and Northern Ireland,

3 Whitehall Court, SW1.

May 23.

Letters for publication may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

### Europe: the other trading options

From

the Executive Director  
of Friends of the Earth

Sir, Mothers with babies are in a painful dilemma. With cow's milk discounted as an option for feeding babies (reports, May 23) they are forced to choose between breast feeding and baby formula milk — when both are contaminated with chemicals that can mimic hormones and affect the future health of their child.

In the case of breast milk we know that levels of dioxin exceed the World Health Organisation standards by more than ten times. With baby formula milk exposure to phthalates averages between two and three times the precautionary limits set by the EC Scientific Committee on Food. Infants are being exposed at levels of the same order of those known to cause reproductive damage in rats.

Friends of the Earth research has shown a range of food and packaging that is likely to be contaminated with hormone-mimicking chemicals. At the recent Institute of Environmental Health round table on these chemicals there was a remarkable consensus between non-governmental organisations (NGOs),



## COURT CIRCULAR

## BUCKINGHAM PALACE

May 28: The Duke of Edinburgh, Founder and Chairman of the International Trustee, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Association, and President, World Wide Fund for Nature - WWF International, left Dyce Airport, Aberdeen, this morning for visits to Geneva, Bern and Zurich, Switzerland, and Gibraltar.

Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Richards is in attendance.

The Baroness Trumpington (Baroness in Waiting) called upon the Governor-General of St Kitts and Nevis at the Copthorne Tara Hotel, Wrights Lane, London W8, this morning and, on behalf of The Queen, welcomed His Excellency on his Arrival in this country.

## Today's royal engagements

The Queen will attend a reception, given by the Royal School of Church Music at St James's Palace at 6.30.

The Duke of York will visit York to mark the 600th anniversary of the granting of the first charter. He will visit an exhibition of local enterprise in the Guildhall, York, at 10.35; will visit the new One-Stop community centre at 11.40; will attend a luncheon reception at the Assembly Rooms at 12.45; will visit the urban regeneration project at Bell Farm Housing Estate, at 2.15; and will attend a dinner at Merchant Adventurers' Hall at 7.30.

The Princess Royal as President of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, will attend Presidents' Day at the Moreton Foundation, Penllyn Science Park, Bush Estate, Penllyn, at 9.45; and will open the display by Henry Poole & Company in the Textile and Dress Department, Victoria and Albert Museum at 7.00.

Princess Margaret will visit the Horse Rangers Association at their headquarters at the Royal Mews, Hampton Court Palace, at 2.30.

## Cambridge

Selwyn College: Elected into School Teacher Bursaries for Easter Term 1997. Martins Club, of the Sheffield College: Graham Seal, of Manchester Grammar School.

## Birthdays today

Mr Colin Amery, architectural writer and historian, 52; Mr Michael Berkeley, composer and broadcaster, 48; Sir Douglas Black, physician, 83; Sir Christopher Bland, chairman of the Board of Governors, BBC, 58; Sir Kenneth Couzens, former chairman, Coal Products, 71; Mr Quentin Davies, MP, 52; Sir Jeremy Elwes, chairman, St Helier National Health Service Trust, 59; Lord Fraser of Carmyllie, 51; Lieutenant-General Sir Martin Garrod, 61; Sir Anthony Grant, MP, 71; Miss Linda Esther Gray, opera singer, 48; Mrs Patricia Harris, former central president, The Mothers' Union, 57; Sir Robin Hayhoe, diplomat, 76; Sir John Herbold, civil servant, 74; Sir Trevor Holdsworth, former

## CLARENCE HOUSE

May 28: Mrs Michael Gordon-Lennox has succeeded the Hon Mrs Rhodes as Lady-in-Waiting to Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother.

## ST JAMES'S PALACE

May 28: The Prince of Wales this evening gave a Reception for the Friends of Mount Athos.

## KENSINGTON PALACE

May 28: The Duke of Gloucester, Colonel-in-Chief, The Royal Gloucestershire, Berkshire and Wiltshire Regiment, this morning received Lieutenant-Colonel Patrick Davidson-Houston, on relinquishing the appointment of Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion and Lieutenant-Colonel Barry Parkinson, on relinquishing the appointment of Commanding Officer of the 2nd (Volunteer) Battalion.

## Dinner

## Coachmakers and Coach Harness Makers

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, accompanied by the Sheriffs and their ladies, received the guests of a dinner given by the Master, Wardens and members of the Livery of the Coachmakers and Coach Harness Makers' Company last night at the Mansion House. Mr Peter Sparks, Master, presided. Mr James Smillie, Senior Warden, and Sir Rodney Sweeney, President of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, also spoke.

## Fruiterers' Company

Lieutenant-Colonel L.G. French has been appointed Clerk to the Fruiterers' Company on the retirement of Commander M.T.H. Styles, RN.

## Gardeners' Company

The following were elected officers of the Gardeners' Company for the ensuing year at a Court Meeting held yesterday: Master, Mr J.H. Flanagan; Upper Warden, Mr R.P. Franklin; Renter Warden, Mr J.F. Palmer. Later the Fairchild Lecture was delivered by Prebendary Peter Delaney, Honorary Chaplain, at the Annual Guild service at St Giles, Cripplegate.

## Anniversaries

## BIRTHS

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BY MICHAEL J HENDRIE  
ASTRONOMY CORRESPONDENT

MERCURY is a morning star but rises no more than an hour before the Sun and will not be visible, despite being at greatest western elongation (24 degrees) on the 10th.

Venus begins June as a -4.2 magnitude evening star, setting only an hour after the Sun on the 1st. It passes through inferior conjunction on the 10th and then reappears in the morning sky rising more than an hour before the Sun by the 30th.

Mars rises less than two hours before the Sun and is still in bright twilight as it moves eastwards through Aries into Taurus.

Jupiter is -2.6 magnitude, low in the southern sky for much of the night, among the stars of Sagittarius. Moon to the north on the 3rd-4th.

Saturn rises by 21h in late June, passing slowly from Pisces into Cetus. Moon to the north on the 9th.

Uranus is in Capricornus rising about sunset by the end of the month. Moon to the north on the 5th-6th.

Neptune is in Sagittarius rising a little before Uranus.

Moon: full Moon 1d 21h; last quarter 8d 11h; new Moon 1d 02h; first quarter 2d 05h.

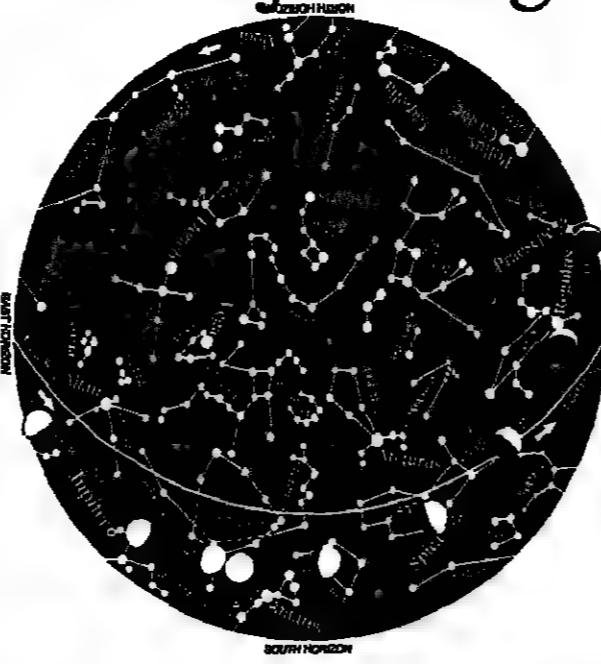
Earth: the summer solstice is on 21d 02h.

Sunset on the 1st 20h 10m

and on the 30th at 20h 55m while sunrise is at 03h 58m and 03h 45m on the same dates.

Astronomical twilight lasts all night in June. One phenomenon visible from much of the British Isles for a few

## The sky at night in June



The diagram shows the brighter stars that will be above the horizon in the latitude of London at 23h (1 pm) at the beginning, 22h (10 pm) in the middle, and 21h (9 pm) at the end of the month, local mean time. At places away from the Greenwich meridian the Greenwich times at which the diagram applies are later than the above by about 10 min for each 1° of longitude to the eastward. The times should be turned to go to the horizon the observer is seeing (shown by the words around the circle) is the Greenwich Mean Time, known to astronomers as Universal Time and expressed in 24-hour notation, is used in the accompanying notes unless otherwise stated.

weeks only, around the time of the summer solstice, is that of noctilucent clouds. They occur at high latitudes and at heights of about 80 km (50 miles) while most ordinary cloud is below 15 km. If visible at all, they will be low in the northern sky.

There were good displays on June 2, 1994, and in 1995, visible from as far south as the English Channel coast. On clear evenings watch to the NNE well after sunset when any lower cloud will be seen

black against the twilight sky. If noctilucent cloud is present it will appear bright as it is still lit by the Sun, from below our northern horizon. During the night the clouds may move round towards the NNE.

The clouds, usually silvery or bluish-white, can be bright enough to be readily noticeable. They often form little lanes of cloudlets, a lattice pattern of cirrus-like wisps. Being only a few degrees above the horizon, one needs a clear northern skyline but a

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weeks only, around the time of the summer solstice, is that of noctilucent clouds. They occur at high latitudes and at heights of about 80 km (50 miles) while most ordinary cloud is below 15 km. If visible at all, they will be low in the northern sky.

There were good displays on June 2, 1994, and in 1995, visible from as far south as the English Channel coast. On clear evenings watch to the NNE well after sunset when any lower cloud will be seen

black against the twilight sky. If noctilucent cloud is present it will appear bright as it is still lit by the Sun, from below our northern horizon. During the night the clouds may move round towards the NNE.

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# The children's tales as yet untold

On May 17 the classic Fleet Street disclaimer — "The Daily Mail makes no apology" — introduced a story that the paper called "among the most shocking you'll ever read". It wasn't, of course, but horrible enough to warrant a passing over: the details of the abduction, rape and murder of nine-year-old Daniel Handley.

Murder is an old story, but child sexual abuse is not. It is that rare commodity: new news. The discovery that vulnerable children have been sexually exploited by those entrusted with their care must rank as the greatest story never told.

Why have we been so blind? Knowing what we do now, for us to see on the television news the charming, half-timbered children's home in Wrexham is unbearable. You put yourself in the place of those adolescents being driven up the drive through spacious grounds, thinking, "Everything's going to be all right now." You then think of what lay waiting within — with punishment for trying to run away.

The horror makes you want to rewrite Dickens — if not the whole of 19th-century children's literature. Dickens convinces us that children in care suffered no worse than the refusal of a second bowl of porridge. The orphaned Jane Eyre suffered no more than a book thrown at her by her bullying male cousin. And Huckleberry Finn floated down the Mississippi unmoored by the two old rogues into whose clutches he had fallen.

The prettifying up of what can happen to children has been a massive, collective act of cultural censorship. Walk through the National Gallery or read the world's great books and you find depictions of the rape of women, but none of children. The scale of the taboo is all the more staggering when you realise that the use of children for sexual gratification has been going on since the dawn of time.

The greatest censor of all may have been the man who discovered childhood sexuality, Sigmund Freud. The most damning charge laid against him today is that he doctored the truth: confronted with too many tales of fathers entering daughters' bedrooms, he dismissed them as female fantasies.

Don't think the censorship is over. Next month the Secretary of State for Wales, William Hague, will sit down with the five new authorities which have replaced Clywd County Council to try to publish the long-secret report on 21 years of child abuse at children's homes in north Wales. The report, commissioned by Clywd, is said to expose one of the worst abuse scandals of the century, but it has been withheld from the public. All we know is that at least four people are already in jail for sexual assaults.

It is not just prudishness that keeps the

ugly news out of the papers. Convictions of the guilty are swiftly followed by insurance claims against their employers. Staffordshire County Council's insurers have paid out £1.7 million in compensation to the victims of some of its social workers' unusual punishments.

And, of course, accusations may not be true. False Memory Syndrome is a sorry by-product of the awakening to the fact of adult-child sexual relations. People recover memories of what never happened, just as another by-product — over-cautious social workers detect non-existent symptoms and misinterpret hearsay.

These secondary consequences must be resisted. But they must not disguise the ugly truth upon which the late 20th century has belatedly stumbled: that a range of evils from paedophilia to incest is far more common than was ever realised.

When did the unspeakable become printable? Possibly the publication of *Lolita* in 1958 put the description of paedophilia before the public and Nabokov succeeded where Freud failed in daring to announce that children have sexual desires too.

"It was she who seduced me," says the astonished paedophile Humbert Humbert. The Moors murderers in the early 1960s certainly forced the issue before readers' eyes. And when Esther Rantzen launched her ChildLine in 1986, she found it swamped by calls from children in distress.

No one can argue that this new crime is cooked up by the media to sell newspapers. Very few people like to read about it, but the stories are not going to go away. The spread of the Internet with its uncontrollable possibilities for adults to get at children, even if only electronically, raises the problem to a new dimension.

Some good must come out of this exposure. We can now see that the rise of divorce brings new dangers into the home. Young girls are far more at risk from the sexual attentions of their boyfriend than from their own father. We can now witness the sexual content of those terrible Safeway commercials showing tiny children courting like adults. And new stories like that of the girl of nine having an abortion should put an end to pious pleas for a return to innocence.

There never was any innocence. Childhood, it has been observed, was a 19th-century invention. Children have always been prisoners of their parents or of whomever looks after them. The recognition that this vulnerability includes access to their private regions makes for appalling reading. But it is also children's best hope of protection at last.



BRENDA MADDOX

**Powerful: MacKenzie**

## The power behind the throne

THE talk at the Mirror Group's Canary Wharf headquarters as chief executive David Montgomery appears to be taking a less hands-on role is focusing on the seemingly unstoppable comeback of Kelvin Mackenzie, head of the company's cable channel Live TV!

Not only has he installed his protege Piers Morgan in the Editor's chair at *The Daily Mirror*, but as the most vociferous member of the jury for the prestigious Newspaper Industry Awards in March, the former *Sun* Editor is also credited with helping former *People* Editor Bridget Rose to win the prizes for National Newspaper of the Year and Sunday Newspaper of the Year. He went on to support her promotion to MD of *The People and Sunday Mirror*.

It is not quite clear yet what he makes of *The Independent's* new Editor Andrew Marr, although he has been heard to mutter something about the paper becoming "a bit studenty". Mackenzie is

goodbye. Shortly afterwards the helpless manager made an abrupt exit from the company — at around 6pm on a Friday.

• They may be commemorating 50 years of *Woman's Hour* and they may be celebrating "powerful" women past and present in their specially produced pack of *Woman's Hour* playing cards, but noticeably absent from the deck is *Liz Forgan*, the former managing director of Network Radio BBC. She has been overlooked in favour of an eclectic, and some would say random, mixture of women. "We didn't want it to be too internal," a Radio 4 spokeswoman said. Nonetheless, the matter of choice seems to have remained very internal indeed. One of the Aces — the "best women ever" — is *Billie Holiday*, in strange company with Queen Elizabeth I, *Simone de Beauvoir* and *Jane Austen*.

A spokesman for BBC Worldwide said it had no rights to video sales of *Perseverance* in the US and the Americans could do what they liked with the cover. "I guess it makes it a little more seductive to us over here," explained a spokeswoman for Columbia TriStar in California.

**Save our men**

CHRIS TARRANT, the Capital Radio breakfast presenter and TV host, has fallen foul of the UK Men's Movement, self-styled protectors of the nation's males. The television show *Man O'Man*, which Mr Tarrant presents, has been denounced by the organisation as "appallingly sexist and demeaning", not to mention "shambolic".

"This so-called humour," complains Lawrie Jackson, secretary of the UKMM, in a letter to the TV network heads and the Broadcasting Standards Council. "Ciaran Hinds and Amanda Root were deemed too demure to attract US audiences

Weather Channel on cable, which launches on Friday, have approached her to help to front the station. However, the cable company says it's her geography degree as much as her blonde appeal that has lured them in her direction. "We are looking for people with a serious meteorological background," a spokeswoman said earnestly. *Bien sur.*

## Owen goal

MORE rumblings of discontent at the beleaguered *Sunday Business*, where some staff were surprised on Sunday to read their Editor's personal endorsement of the socialist businessman Owen Oyston, who was convicted of rape last week.

Oyston, incidentally, helped the paper out in its early days with a life-saving "loan" of £200,000. The homily by the Editor, Tom Rubynson — which concluded with the rousing words "... there is one thing I know for sure, Owen Oyston is not and has never been a rapist, whatever a jury might have said" — was prepared in secrecy. Senior journalists were told that the pages were to be filled by a "marketing promotion" and so knew nothing about it until the paper hit the news-stands.

Many hardened hacks, who have been prepared to soldier on at the paper despite the fact that they have not received all of their May salaries, are now considering resigning in protest.

• Assistant editor of *The Spectator* Petronella Wyatt denies categorically that her new dining club, *Women Against Journalism*, has been formed in reaction to the crusading feminist organisation *Women In Journalism*, despite the similarity in the two groups' names.

"It is a complete coincidence that the names are so much alike," she insists. Of course it is.

Wyatt, who founded *WAJ* with Spectator deputy editor Anne McElroy, admits however that the new organisation has been created as a reaction against the over-earnestness and political correctness of "some women's groups" in recent years.



Man in trouble: Tarrant

J Sainsbury now that it's being trounced by Tesco. Marketers at a recent conference were gobsmacked, for example, to hear Sainsbury's deputy chairman Tom Vyner talk of the need for more honest communications between manufacturers and retailers — not things Sainsbury's feared buyers are renowned for.

But old attitudes die hard. Mr Vyner peppered his contribution with references to Wellington and Napoleon, while Tesco's Graham Booth joked about elephants — a contrast Mr Booth pointed out.

ALAN MITCHELL



**The Pope: raising cash**

# Heaven is...pitching for the Vatican

Imagery of the Roman Catholic Church to market its message — and raise a little cash.

Jewel in the crown is a Vatican Library licensing and merchandising programme that will put its repertoire of paintings, frescoes and buildings on household objects and clothes around the globe.

Father Leonard Boyle, the library director, denies rumours that Gucci and Armani will soon be sporting Vatican motifs at heavenly margins.

But, he admits, a range of Vatican-inspired costume jewellery has already been "particularly successful".

And that's only the beginning, as UK design agencies have discovered. They've been receiving phone calls from an organisation called the Committee for the Jubilee inviting them to pitch for a project called AD 2000. The brief: to conjure up a logo which inspires the world's populace to celebrate the true meaning

of the millennium. Agencies, it appears, will be expected to do the work for free as, it is subtly hinted, their rewards will come in the next life.

JUST what is going on at BT?

A year ago it appointed Mike Biden, a man from Mars (the corporation, not the planet), to dazzle us with the joys of modern telecoms.

By January Mr Biden was out and BT was asserting that

it's vast personal communica-

tions division no longer needs a marketing director. Charlotte Pinder, a marketing hotshot brought from Pepsi, walked out on May 7.

Now BT has appointed a new marketing director: Mike Wagner. Talk of expanding the telecoms market has evaporated, and chunk of BT's £180 million residential marketing budget have been switched from advertising into direct mail.

Notwithstanding Mr Wag-

ner's appointment, insiders now believe BT's marketing is effectively controlled by the Canadian direct marketing consultant Ed Carter.

Where such shenanigans leave BT's "It's Good to Talk" ad campaign is anybody's guess. But most BT watchers are speechless.

THE grocery industry is full of rumours of a cultural sea-change said to be sweeping through the once-arrogant

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# Paper tigers... office tyrants?

Is the new generation of hire-and-fire editors what our newspapers need in the Nineties?

THE case of Graham Jones, the 44-year-old assistant editor (news) of the *Sunday Express*, who was "tossed aside like a toffee wrapper", could become a precedent for Fleet Street. Although the industrial tribunal found that there had been no sexual discrimination, the chairman, Ian Lamb, condemned the hire-and-fire policy of Express Group Newspapers. They had already admitted unfair dismissal, and will have to pay compensation.

Mr Lamb told the Editor of the *Sunday Express*, Sue Douglas, that she had been "hiring and firing with complete disregard for the laws or good employment practice... This dismissal had no rhyme or reason except the personal preference of Ms Douglas... it was utterly irrational and whimsical. She considered that Mr Jones was just not a person she wanted to work with." If Sue Douglas were the only editor to behave in this way, that would merely be another black mark for the *Sunday Express*, a newspaper whose catastrophic fall in circulation Ms Douglas is trying to halt. Yet it is notorious that Fleet Street is now divided into two schools. There are editors who manage their staff reasonably and consistently, do not fire without reason and consideration, and try to build their professional teams with care over time. And there are the other editors whose firings are indeed "irrational and whimsical".

There is, I think, an important distinction to be made between two types of journalist. A minority of journalists are in the position of actors on stage: we perform the play as the public sees it. The readers of the newspapers come to know our names, and either like or dislike what we write. Such named journalists have their advantages. Because we are known as individuals, we are also known to the editors of other newspapers, and can change papers relatively easily. If we have a following among readers, that tends to be reflected in our pay. We have good access to the people we write about because they have read our pieces.

These advantages are naturally compensated for by our being essentially the tubes of colour in the editor's paintbox. He has to balance his paper: he has to hold his readers' attention; he has to keep his paper looking fresh. One of



Max Hastings, of the *Evening Standard*, and Sue Douglas, of the *Sunday Express*, both enjoy reputations as hire-and-fire editors. Ms Douglas's action was called "whimsical".

the ways in which he will achieve this is by bringing in new named writers, with new opinions and ideas. And if new writers are brought in, old writers must sometimes go out. An editor who changes his named writers may well expect them to pop up elsewhere, but he must be free to make the choice. If one follows the career of a first-class columnist like Auberon Waugh, one can see that both he and the newspapers which have employed him have benefited from this merry-go-round.

An editor who never changed anybody would therefore not be doing his job, and his readers would soon notice. But the named writers, the actors who appear on stage, are a minority of journalists, though they may be doing very important jobs on the newspaper. They are professionals, and one of their skills is to respond to the policies of the editor, who has the ultimate responsibility for judging what his readers will want.

Mr Jones had worked on the



WILLIAM REES-MOGG

he does not decide it. The editor does that. If Ms Douglas wanted headless bodies, it would have been Mr Jones's job to produce them; if she wanted Tory MPs in shock horror sleaze, it would have been Mr Jones's job to exhume some of that; if she wanted to lead the paper on a quarter point fall in the yen/dollar exchange rate, that would have become Mr Jones's business as well. But she had not waited to see whether he could produce the sort of news stories she wanted; she fired him partly because he had been around under her predecessor, and had then provided the news stories which her predecessor had asked for. That was "irrational and whimsical".

The broad principle must be that journalists should be judged on their professional performance. The editor will in the end be judged by the success of the newspaper — it is a market test: the named writer will be judged by the appeal to the reader of his or her writing: the news editor, the sub-editor or the anonymous reporter should be

judged on the ability to respond to the needs of the newspaper as the editor perceives them. In my own experience on *The Times*, good professionals are entirely willing, and pleased, to take coherent direction from their editor, and are only disappointed if they do not get it. Sometimes newspapers are overmanned, and the staff has to be trimmed down, but that

is a different question. Overmanning is not only commercially wasteful, but is bad for the editorial process as such. There is a certain tempo which runs through a newspaper; one of the functions of the editor, like the conductor of an orchestra, is to set the tempo. If there are too many staff, everyone will be working at reduced pressure, and the tempo will slacken. If one compares the five London broadsheets at present, the most highly manned for its function is the *Financial Times*, while *The Independent* has been through savage staff cuts, made inevitable because of heavy losses of money. The tempo of *The Independent* is much quicker than that of the *Financial Times*, and it leaves the impression of a more tightly edited newspaper.

The editorial and commercial benefits of a stable policy

## Mad cows and Englishmen hit out in the Mail and Sun

We won the war in 1945, we won the World Cup in 1966 but we still hate the Germans, don't we? Any German in Britain last week could have been forgiven for thinking so.

When John Major summoned Britain to war with Europe, the Tory tabloids instantly donned battle gear and went over the top — in both senses of the phrase.

"Major shows bulls at last" roared *The Sun*. "Major goes to war at last" said *The Daily Mail*. (Note that "at last" in both)

"Major speaks for Britain" said *The Daily Express*, showing the Prime Minister against the Union Jack.

*The Sun* occupied its usual position in the leading tank. Against a picture of Winston Churchill, Britain's biggest-selling daily launched a buy-British crusade urging Britain to "Saxon" German food and drink.

Joining forces with the Asda supermarket chain, it offered readers two free British beefburgers as well as an "I'm Backing British Beef" car-sticker. It also proposed 20 ways to hit back at the Europeans, including a boycott of German beer, Mercedes cars and Hugo Boss clothes.

Just behind, in the second tank, was the increasingly belligerent *Daily Express*, which offered a guide how to say "no" — a vital word for Euro-sceptics — in nine languages.

There were unusually warm endorsements for Mr Major from *The Daily Mail* and *The Daily Telegraph*, although both were dubious about the strength of his resolution. "If after one bout of stage-managed defiance at Florence his boldness shrivels with punctured bravado, he will bear the blame and the shame," said *The Mail*. According to *The Daily Telegraph*: "If this gamble pays off, the electoral rewards will be great. If it fails, the end is nigh... this has become a battle that [the Government] cannot afford to lose."

Depending on your point of view, all this speaking for England is either exhilarating — damn the Krauts — or deeply shaming, an outburst of xenophobia in papers read by more than 20 million readers a day.

It was John Williams from the *Daily Mirror* who described most succinctly the reaction of the ashamed. This was not a war about beef, but about Germans, he argued. A sinister phrase had started to appear among the Euro-sceptics and their media cheerleaders. They

called the EU "the Fourth Reich", implying that Helmut Kohl was succeeding where the Luftwaffe failed. "This is a wicked distortion. Let's be blunter still. It is evil," said Mr Williams.

Under its new Editor, Andrew Marr, *The Independent* devoted most of its front page to a commentary under the sardonic headline, "Oh what a lovely war!" Two telling arguments were put by John Lichfield. If the BSE epidemic had occurred in France, a child could have composed the likely *Daily Mail* splash: "EU orders Britons to eat killer meat."

Many on the Continent, moreover, believe that eating British — or any — beef might (just might) rot the brains of their children. "And who originally said so? The British Government and the British press."

Yet quite the most scathing, damning and magisterial indictment of Mr Major appeared neither in a tabloid nor a paper of the Left, but in *The Times*, where William Rees-Mogg was in Swiftian mode. Europe was not going to lift the beef ban until it was known whether or not BSE was infectious, he argued.

are illustrated in the Associated Newspapers Group, the *Daily Mail*, *The Mail on Sunday* and the *Evening Standard*. This group now dominates the mid-market in the way that the Express Group did in the 1940s and 1950s, when Lord Beaverbrook was the proprietor. In 1971 Lord Rothermere became the chairman of Associated Newspapers; in the same year Sir David English became Editor of the *Daily Mail*. They are still running the group, 25 years later, and they have had a surprisingly stable team of senior editors, who have mostly pursued stable policies of professional employment.

The exception among their editors has been Max Hastings, the still comparatively new Editor of the *Evening Standard*. He enjoyed the reputation of being a "hire-and-fire" Editor at *The Daily Telegraph*, and he seems to have fired people quite freely when he went to the *Evening Standard*. There he inherited an editorial team which had been built up by Paul Dacre, now Editor of the *Daily Mail*, and Stewart Steven, who had previously edited *The Mail on Sunday*.

I have read the *Evening Standard* throughout this period, as most Londoners do: Max Hastings seems not yet to have been able to rebuild a staff as good as the one he inherited and partially dispersed. As a result his *Evening Standard* has so far been a duller newspaper than Dacre's or Steven's.

In the 1970s, the trade unions were far too strong in Fleet Street, including the National Union of Journalists itself. That led to *The Times* stoppage of 1978 and subsequently to the move to Wapping, which saved the commercial future of the whole London press. The balance of power has now swung the other way. That has led some editors to adopt a macho or virago approach to hiring and firing. Such editors disrupt the professional teams on which successful editorial work depends. At worst they can become petty office tyrants ruling frightened courts in a spirit of personal vanity. Apart from anything else, that is not good for the quality of their newspapers.

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Preview: Watch Stonehenge being built. *Secrets of Lost Empires* (BBC2, 9pm) Review: Lynne Truss on the travails of the cash-strapped aristocracy ..... Page 47

## OPINION

## A voice for Ulster

The Unionist embrace of voices such as Conor Cruise O'Brien's — scurrilous, intelligent and Catholic — will make it more likely that Ulster will win the stability that the Province needs ..... Page 19

## Turkey in trouble

Only by setting aside their personal animosities can Turkey's leaders give the country the responsible leadership it deserves ..... Page 19

## A sign of peace

Usually the running-down of stocks is seen as a sign of recession. In the Ministry of Defence it is a sign of peace ..... Page 19

## Host send

Sale of

Host send



## Britain turns screw in beef battle

■ Britain escalated its "beef war" with Europe, wielding the national veto 12 times to scupper measures that would normally have sailed through.

But as ministers blocked everything that came before them in Brussels, the man in charge of the Cabinet response admitted that it could be six years before all Britain's cattle are free of "mad cow" disease — and even appeared to accept that the exports ban could last into the next century ..... Pages 1, 2

## Damage to England footballers' plane

■ England footballers were at the centre of a police investigation into damage to the jet which brought them back from Hong Kong. Damage to the Cathay Pacific 747 was confined to the upper business class section where the 27-strong squad of players were sitting ..... Page 1

## Blood money

Thousands of gold sovereigns given to British troops in the Gulf War to help them bargain for their lives if caught behind Iraqi lines, are to be sold by the Ministry of Defence for about £1 million ..... Page 1

## Oxford chair saved

Oxford's chair of European Thought has been saved just weeks after the grandson of a Nazi war criminal, who made the original donation, asked for his money back ..... Page 1

## Robbers kill tourist

A German tourist on a twinning visit to Bedford was shot dead in front of her husband during a bungled hotel robbery as they sat drinking with friends ..... Page 3

## Charity support

In the week in which her divorce becomes absolute and she relinquishes the title Her Royal Highness, the Duchess of York's small fistful of charities have rallied round to support her ..... Page 5

## Sins of the parents

Schools should be allowed to expel the children of parents who attack staff, head teachers' leaders said ..... Page 6

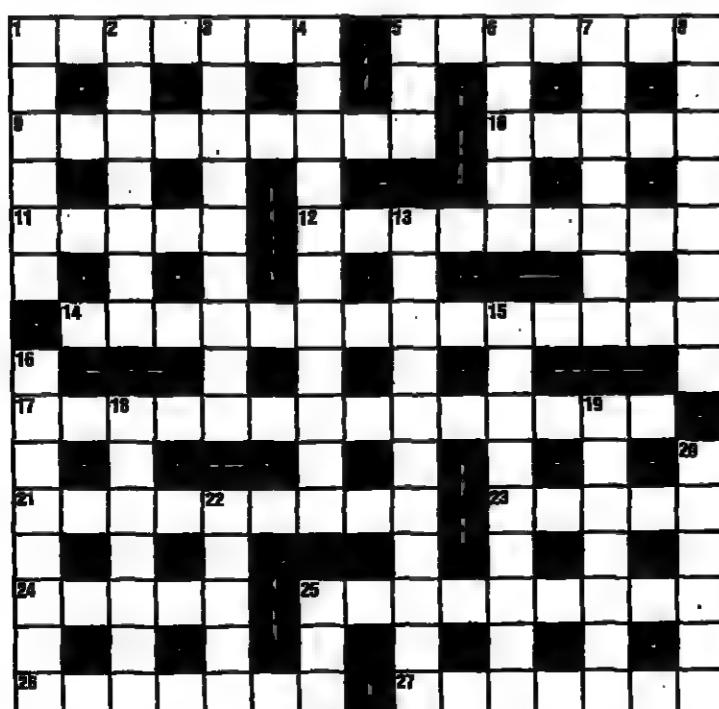
## Baby milk danger

Scandinavian studies have shown that breast milk contains traces of chemicals that may be at least as dangerous as those found in infant formulae ..... Page 8

## I've started but they won't let me finish

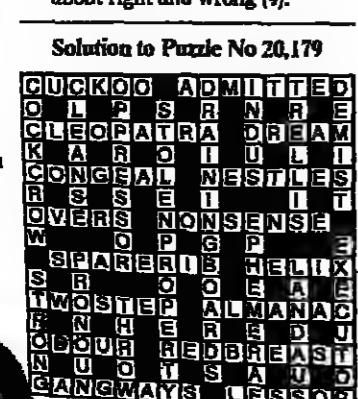
■ The BBC's quiz programme *Mastermind* gets its first taste of censorship tonight when a contestant will answer questions on The Sex Pistols. The Corporation's language police have decided to bleep out an expletive uttered by Magnus Magnusson during a question about the band's notorious album, *Never Mind the Bollocks* ..... Page 1

## THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,180



## ACROSS

1 He's left the money demanded in this box (7).  
 5 Soft, like some land in story about sover? (7).  
 9 What shows smile lapping milk, a funny old cat (9).  
 10 Get hold of doctor to contain most of inflammation (5).  
 11 Antelope that's invaded many a laager? (5).  
 12 Handyman working round the flats (5-4).  
 14 Was on and became genuinely autobiographical? (4,2,3,5).  
 17 Brisk new horse! get broken in here? (9).  
 21 English woman's ornament on uniform (9).  
 23 To show disapproval following thanks is socially unacceptable (5).  
 24 Town developed on both sides of this river (5).  
 25 As rebel fighter, argue terribly about right and wrong (9).  
 Solution to Puzzle No 20,179



26 Australians in mining group (7).  
 27 Little girl needs a lot of time to make a bit of mosaic (7).

## DOWN

1 Intelligence shown in a little final piece from US (3,3).  
 2 Woodcutter who had a couple of scores to settle (3,4).  
 3 Those who know the ropes may be prophets keeping at a distance (9).  
 4 Completes the sentence and establishes a proposition? (5,1,5).  
 5 Such a number should be kept secret and secure (3).  
 6 One with zero urge to reform? (5).  
 7 Support against trouble may be just bluster (7).  
 8 Facilitate middle of text on page getting revised, cut (3).  
 13 A note about girl leading guys in successful outcome (11).  
 15 Favours theatrical acts worthy of applause (4,5).  
 16 Jack, and what he did, reportedly descended at speed (8).  
 18 University's interpretation (7).  
 19 Plant finally unable to manoeuvre in clouds (7).  
 20 Boy attending a pianist's performance (6).  
 22 Faithful, say, when taken in by deception (5).  
 25 Boasting when decline is reversed (3).

This puzzle was solved within 30 minutes by 60 per cent of the solo competitors in the Bristol Regional Final of The Times Abertorv Crossword Championship and by 53 per cent of the pairs. Restrictions apply. See Teletext p.354

Times Two Crossword, page 48

Clifford and Janice Spencer, who farm near Bridlington, Yorkshire, admire a 25-acre field of the border plant honesty (*Lunaria biennis*). The flower's seeds contain nervonic acid which, it is hoped, might be used in the treatment of multiple sclerosis

## SPORT

**Football:** Eboli, Wise, Lee and Wilcox suffered the cruelest cut as Terry Venables unveiled his 22-man squad for the European championship ..... Page 48

**Cricket:** Yorkshire overwhelmed Surrey to reach the semi-finals of the Benson and Hedges Cup. They will be joined by Warwickshire, who beat Glamorgan. ..... Page 44, 48

**Nuclear:** Ordinary investors will be given the chance to buy at least 30 per cent of British Energy, the nuclear group, when it is privatised in July. Small shareholders will be offered a discount ..... Page 25

**Markets:** The FT-SE 100 rose 8.1 to 3760.2. Sterling rose from \$4.9 to 85.1 after a fall from \$15.27 to \$15.22 but a rise from DM2.321 to DM2.3410 ..... Page 28

**Motorcycling:** Michael Jordan confirmed his pre-eminence in the sport when he scored 45 points against Orlando Magic to secure Chicago Bulls' place in the NBA championship finals ..... Page 42

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**Sins of**



## BT to cut business tariffs by £220m

By ERIC REGULY

BRITISH TELECOM yesterday launched its most ambitious effort to win back business customers by making across-the-board price cuts that will total £220 million a year.

The reductions will come into effect in July and are likely to be followed by similar cuts next year.

BT's goal is to increase its presence in the business market, where its share has fallen furthest. The company has fewer than half the customers in the City of London, the business market's richest prize.

The £220 million price reduction for business customers will take the total cuts this year to about £400 million, or about £100 million more than the level required by Ofcom, the regulator for the telecommunications industry.

Under the Ofcom price controls, BT must reduce its overall prices each year by the retail prices index, less 7.5 per cent. BT has gone beyond the minimum requirement in an effort to become more competitive in the business sector.

Reductions after mid-1997 will be set by Ofcom's new price cap, whose level is to be determined within a couple of weeks.

The next cap may be just as tight as the current one, but it is thought likely that it will cover a narrower range of services.

BT has argued that controls are needed only in areas where it has clear domination, such as residential line rentals.

The company added that the business tariffs will make existing discount packages about 10 per cent cheaper.



Peps, the plastic containers company, lifted pre-tax profits to £6.9 million from £6.47 million in the year to March 31. The company, whose chief executive is Malcolm Macintyre (pictured, centre, with directors Nicholas Templeton-Ward, left, and Stephen Nobbs), has lifted the total dividend from 7p to 7.35p, with a 5.35p final

## Dairy administration threatens 1,000 jobs

By OLIVER AUGUST

ONE thousand jobs came under threat yesterday at Cricket St Thomas Dairies in Somerset after the appointment of an administrator, while elsewhere in the dairy industry the former processing arm of the Milk Marketing Board is expected to announce flotation plans today.

Cricket St Thomas failed to achieve expected efficiency gains and was granted the appointment of administrators at the High Court on Sunday.

Its difficulties were compounded over the last two months as milk sales were depressed after the bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) scare. The collapse of the milk export market led to a surplus of depressed prices in spite of the lack of scientific evidence linking milk to BSE.

Murdoch McKillop, a partner at Arthur Andersen, the accountancy firm, and a joint administrator, said: "At this stage, it is far too early to indicate if the business will be sold or re-constructed but we are hopeful that we will be able to find a way forward. In the meantime, the dairy will be delivering milk to customers as usual."

The Somerset company has an annual turnover of £90 million and employs 400 people at its dairy and 600 at its depots. It supplies milk

and cream products to supermarkets, retailers and on a doorstep delivery service.

Arthur Andersen said the decision to put the dairy into administration meant it would continue to trade as a going concern and provided a "realistic prospect of finding a solution to the current difficulties".

The administrator is currently conducting a detailed appraisal of trading and financial prospects.

Mr McKillop said the company had encountered a "serious cash-flow crisis" after plans to consolidate milk production at Cricket St Thomas had proved to be more complex than anticipated. "The

situation is complex and certain on-going issues need to be resolved before we can determine the best way forward for the business," he added.

After unveiling the final results, Dairy Crest, the former processing arm of the now-defunct Milk Marketing Board, is set to seek a stock market listing today, despite the industry's problems with BSE.

Dairy Crest has been considering a flotation for several months and said in early December last year that it was still prepared for a full listing on the London Stock Exchange.

The company is expected to be valued at £200 million.

## Date set for hearing on cash for BCCI creditors

LIQUIDATORS of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI) will go to the High Court on July 15 to seek special arrangements for payments to British creditors, sources familiar with the collapsed bank said yesterday.

BCCI was shut down in 1991 with debts of more than \$12 billion. The liquidators, Deloitte & Touche, declined to comment yesterday, but sources said the need for a court hearing arose because of differ-

## Tax rush Peps up unit sales

By ROBERT MILLER

A LAST-MINUTE rush from investors out to beat the taxman through personal equity plans (Peps) helped unit trust groups to their second successive month of record sales of more than £1 billion.

The Association of Unit Trusts and Investment Funds (Auit) said yesterday that net retail unit trust sales of £1.1 billion in April, an increase of £72 million on the previous month, were boosted by the £369 million handed over in the first few days of last month prior to the end of the tax year on April 5. Sales of unit trust Peps in April were a shade over £1 billion, compared with £990 million in March and £372 million a year ago.

Funds under management among the 164 unit trust companies managing £1.646 billion rose to £1.27 billion in April, compared with £1.21 billion the previous month, while the number of unit-holder accounts at 7.3 million is up one million on a year ago.

Auit said that for the ninth month in succession the UK gilt and fixed-interest sector was the most popular, attracting £230 million of which £209 million was invested in corporate bond Peps.

Commenting on the latest sales figures, Philip Warland, director-general of Auit, said: "There is little doubt that maturing Tessa money is being invested in better performing vehicles like unit trust Peps."

Net unit trust sales to City institutions were again on the low side, although they returned to a positive net inflow of £19 million against a £64 million outflow the previous month.

Gross unit trust sales of £800 million were "brought down substantially" by a £194 million withdrawal of funds from the Far East, excluding the Japan sector, according to Auit.

## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

### SFO investigates Titan Business Club

THE Serious Fraud Office has launched a preliminary investigation into an international money-making scheme that has attracted £20 million and has been described in Parliament by David Rendell, the Liberal Democrat MP for Newbury, as "an insidious pyramid-selling scam". Files relating to the Titan Business Club and its associate companies in the UK have been passed to the SFO by the Department of Trade and Industry, which has started moves in the High Court to close it down.

The Securities and Investments Board, the chief City watchdog, has also offered assistance to the DTI after *The Times* revealed that Titan, which originates in Germany, planned to seek a listing on the Nasdaq stock market in the US. The Titan operation is estimated to have raised £20 million from about 8,000 people since last October.

### Power firm targets AIM

INDEPENDENT ENERGY HOLDINGS, which generates and markets electricity direct to customers, is seeking admission to the Alternative Investment Market via a share placing. The placing price is 100p a share, raising £3.2 million and valuing the company at £13.1 million. Share dealings are expected to begin on Friday. Independent Energy has interests in a number of onshore gasfields in the UK from which it can supply gas-fired electricity generators.

### Kloeckner group at risk

THE future of Kloeckner-Humboldt-Deutz, the German engineer, hangs in the balance after allegations that executives at a subsidiary concealed losses for years. KHD and Deutsche Bank, the company's largest investor and creditor, held weekend talks to find some way to offset the damage, which KHD said would total "hundreds of millions of marks". Trading in KHD shares was suspended before the Frankfurt stock exchange opened yesterday.

### Whitbread invests £105m

WHITBREAD INNS has promised to create more than 2,700 new jobs this year by opening 70 family pubs at a cost of £105 million. A further 52 Brewers Fayre pubs will open, in addition to the 50 set up last year, to expand the chain to more than 330 outlets, while 20 local pubs will be converted into Family Inns. By the end of 1996, almost 25 per cent of Whitbread Inns' 1,650 outlets will have special catering facilities for families, the company said.

### Queens Moat warns

STANLEY METCALFE, Queens Moat Houses chairman, gave warning that trading conditions in Continental Europe remain difficult. But he told the annual meeting that overall trading was "satisfactory" during the first part of the year, with the company raising its rooms performance in the UK. The company has made a series of cost efficiencies to help improve its performance in Germany, France and Belgium, where trading remains tough.

### Fujitsu leaps 54%

STRONG microchip sales underpinned a 54.1 per cent rise in profits at Fujitsu, Japan's leading computer manufacturer and the parent company of ICL of Britain, to £56.66 billion (¥980 million) in the year to March 31, on sales 15 per cent higher at ¥3.76 billion. However, declining prices are expected to put pressure on margins in the current year. The company has forecast a fall in profits to ¥140 billion for the year to March 1997 despite a rise in revenue to ¥4.36 billion.

### Nissan back in black

NISSAN MOTOR Co, Japan's second-biggest carmaker, returned to profit last year, helped by brisk domestic sales and cost-cutting. In the year to March 31 profits were ¥32.43 billion (€198.7 million), compared with losses of ¥61.07 billion the previous year. The result exceeded Nissan's own prediction of a ¥25 billion profit. Like other major Japanese carmakers, including Toyota, the industry leader, Nissan has cut costs and streamlined its business.

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## Economy in US 'to grow by 2.5%'

US business analysts now say the national economy will expand by 2.5 per cent this year, up from a February estimate of 1.9 per cent with inflation held to 2.9 per cent.

The National Association of Business Economists (NABE) also predicted that the Federal Reserve, the US central bank, would hold interest rates steady over the next six months, despite high levels of employment and a strong second quarter performance.

The projection was underscored by reports on sales of existing homes and consumer confidence. Home sales unexpectedly rose 0.5 per cent last month to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 4.22 million units, the second highest rate on record, according to the National Association of Realtors (NAR), while the Conference Board said its consumer confidence index continued to point to moderate economic growth and spending.

### TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buy	Bank Sell
Australia \$	2.00	1.94
Austria Sch	7.44	8.52
Belgium Fr	51.00	46.70
Canada \$	2.163	2.023
Cyprus Cyp	0.753	0.698
Denmark Kr	0.59	0.79
Egypt L	7.76	7.51
France Fr	8.81	7.88
Germany Dm	2.49	2.28
Greece Dr	3.94	3.69
Hong Kong \$	12.55	11.84
Iceland Pr	1.02	0.94
Ireland Shk	5.95	4.70
Italy Lira	2,467	2,312
Japan Yen	177.80	161.50
Korea W	1.00	0.92
Netherlands Gld	2.065	2.026
New Zealand \$	2.38	2.14
Norway Kr	10.84	9.74
Portugal Esc	22.00	22.00
South Africa R	7.18	6.36
Spain Pts	201.92	186.50
Sweden Kr	12.95	10.15
Switzerland Fr	2.05	1.97
Turkey Lira	11.00	10.00
USA \$	1.810	1.490

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□ Water buyers should pay through the nose □ Sliding down a familiar track □ Barings victims still owed fair share

## Some serious competition, please

WE HAVE all been here before, and an unedifying sight it was. The water sector is now set for the sort of undignified scramble that took half the regional electricity companies off the menu last year. To extend the parallel, we might now expect to look back in a year's time on ScottishPower's bid for Southern Water as an absolute steal.

After their abject failure to wrest any benefits to the consumer out of the electricity takeovers, it is up to the competition authorities, the industry regulator and even the Government, heaven help us, to start work now to prevent that from happening again.

Valuing utilities is notoriously difficult. But ScottishPower is offering 12 times last year's earnings for a company whose regulatory regime stretches only until the year 2000. In other words, it is assuming, disregarding interest costs and other variables, that Southern will be here in unchanged form until 2008. A Labour government and a tougher regulator could make the business worthless by the next review — or even sooner.

It is a truism that if someone wants to buy your business for more than it is worth they are either fools — in which case

they have spotted extra value not immediately obvious. Assume the latter in the case of ScottishPower, which picked up Manweb last year for a price that with hindsight looks cheap. The Scots want access to 1.8 million Southern customers, to whom they can sell their own gas next year and electricity in 1998.

Southern Electric, by contrast, wants Southern Water to deny the Scots, or anyone else, easy access to that customer base so it can continue to sell to them. Both, therefore, have good reasons for bidding, and Water is wisely bidding its time before naming a preferred suitor. If they want the water company badly enough, they should be required to pay both shareholders and consumers to get it.

This elementary piece of common sense was missed during the last bidding war in utilities, when a Texan business lost out to North West Water for Norweb. Yet Ian Byatt, the water regulator, has already required that

bids within the industry compete in terms of what they offer the consumer as well as the shareholder. There seems no reason why that principle should not be extended further.

ScottishPower has tacitly started off this bidding round by offering 3 per cent off water bills from April 1998, as well as £750 cash. Other potential bidders, including Southern Electric, should be required to beat this, or see their offers stalled with the MMC. Some proper competition this time around, please.

### Mathematics of the car boot sale

DEJA vu, part two: the privatisation of British Energy, so hard to distinguish from Railtrack that investors might just as well not bother with the prospectus but send in a copy of their earlier applications. Just as well that this is the last such sell-off, because they are acquiring a tiresome familiarity.



First, take the unsaleable, either the country's much-despised rail network or all those terraced nukes. Start off at a low price, and then allow the City to ratchet it down to perhaps tenth what it is worth — the nuclear stations cost the taxpayer £13 billion to build and they will be worth, if lucky, £1.5 billion.

Then apply opposing pressure, by threatening to sell a large chunk of the business to the private investor. This could deprive the City institutions, especially those whose daring approach to share selection involves taking whatever is available in exactly the same

proportion as the next player. These may have to scramble about on the stock market to buy the shares they need.

Next, launch an advertising campaign that makes no reference to the business on offer but merely tips off the punters that a real sup is heading their way, courtesy of privatisation. Slip in a few extras, in case the deal does not turn out to be quite sweet enough. Await the first day scramble for deliberately underpriced equity, and congratulate yourself for another "success".

With British Energy, we are now up to the marketing launch and just ahead of the hand-out of the little extras. We will this time at least miss the special dividend arrangements that paid Railtrack investors an additional £69 million. Dividends are meant to reflect the risk involved in holding the shares, but not in that case — the payment party covered the period before they were sold. Just what little bonuses will have to be provided this time instead?

Perhaps they will not be needed. The advisers are pointing to the "success" of Railtrack, now worth 18 per cent more than it was sold for, as an omen for the British Energy float. On that basis, another "success" looks guaranteed.

### Charity begins at home for ING

WHEN ING bought most of Barings, the Dutch gained a fine business by having the courage that eluded the likes of NatWest.

They also bought enduring embarrassment. Most insiders were looked after — traders and managers have been paid many millions in bonuses geared to Nick Leeson's phantom profits.

Many outsiders, including the Baring Foundation and bond and preference holders who thought the Bank of England's imprint meant something lost out. Had the false bonuses not been paid, individual bondholders and charities could have

been. Do not blame ING, which has already made some payments where it is in line and has made a gesture to the foundation. Beyond the principals within Barings, fault looms largest at the Bank of England. But ING faces the embarrassment.

One face of it is the Abbot of Downside, who brings a private's gaze to the unruly house of Mammon on behalf of a charity. Father Charles has now taken his campaign to the Commons Treasury Select Committee.

Another ever-present, if silent, voice of disapproval is the collective one of traders in financial markets, especially in the Far East. For many of them, Barings has lost honour and failed to redeem itself. It is no longer the trading partner of preference, but only of last resort.

If ING is to realise the true potential of Barings, it needs to dispel the nasty taste lingering from the bank's fall and rise, by squaring at least individual and charitable bond and preference holders, if not all. That might most sensibly be done by giving them a claim on future income. And if staff were invited to divvy up half their false bonuses, and the names of volunteers and refugees were published, Barings might finally be rehabilitated.

## Sun Life set to raise up to £600m from public offer

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY

SUN Life, the UK life company wholly owned by Union des Assurances de Paris (UAP), the French insurer, expects to raise between £450 million and £600 million from a proposed initial public offer of shares next month.

The pathfinder prospectus was published yesterday and bookbuilding starts in Britain and America with a full prospectus on June 10. Robert Fleming is financial adviser and global co-ordinator.

UAP will retain a majority stake of between 51 and 75 per cent, depending on the re-

sponse from institutions. It will use the proceeds to pay off debts of £600 million from recent acquisitions. UAP will undertake in the underwriting agreement that it will not dispose of ordinary shares for one year from listing.

The new quoted company will be called Sun Life and Provincial Holdings (SLP). It will comprise three separate companies: Sun Life, the fourth largest UK life insurer, which sells mostly pensions and some investments; Provincial, which sells general insurance; and New Ireland, a life and pensions provider in the Republic of Ireland. The

outstanding debt is a result of the acquisition of 50 per cent of Sun Life from Transatlantic Holdings in 1995 and the purchase of Provincial in November 1994.

The offer next month will comprise an offer of ordinary shares to certain institutional investors in the UK, the US and the rest of the world and to the public in the UK, Jersey, Guernsey and the Isle of Man.

UAP will have the right to nominate directors to the board of SLP, and future development of international business. Michael Hart, chief executive of SLP, said SLP was a holding company, not a

Tempus, page 28

### Blacks surges to £2m

BY SARAH BAGNALL

A STRONG retail performance helped Blacks Leisure, the sports goods and leisure retailer, to lift pre-tax profits from £610,000 to £2.1 million in the year to February 29.

The advance came on sales of £68.3 million, up from £65.6 million in the previous year. The news lifted the shares 17p to 147p. Profits were held back by a loss on the sale of Quasimodo and trading losses by discontinued businesses of £1.12 million.

The retail performance was helped by a 22 per cent leap in like-for-like sales at First Sport, which sells technical sports equipment. The Blacks Outdoor chain had a tough first nine months due to mild weather but trading recovered, almost offsetting earlier falls.

The final dividend was fixed from 1.5p to 1.75p, making an annual total of 2.5p. (2.25p). The dividend, due October 4, is payable from earnings of 5.54p (L62p) a share.

### Dentist braced to join market

BY SARAH BAGNALL

WHITECROSS, a chain of six dental practices, is to join the Alternative Investment Market (AIM), becoming the first dental business to obtain a stock market listing (Sarah Bagnall writes).

The company is raising £525,000 through a placing of 982,143 shares at 84p a share. The offer — representing 24 per cent of the company — values Whitecross at £3.5 million. The funds will help finance the group's planned expansion in a market worth about £1.5 billion a year.

Whitecross, which is loss-making, plans to open a further nine high street practices in London over the next five years. Each practice costs about £350,000 to establish and as a result Whitecross intends to raise a further £785,000 from a combination of bank debt and finance leases.

Whitecross lost £264,000 in the year to December 31 on

### Smurfit has rethink on bonus pay

BY EILEEN McCAGE

DUBLIN

JEFFERSON SMURFIT, the paper and packaging group, has bowed to pressure from fund managers by changing a proposed bonus package for Michael Smurfit, chairman and chief executive, that could have been worth up to £15 million a year.

The original package, outlined in the annual report, proposed two sets of payments: an annual bonus of up to £1.25 million a year, based on the company's profit performance; and a long-term plan annual payment, based on share price and paid dividends. The combined payments were to be capped at a total of £120 million over the next four years. The company is expected to present a revised package at its annual meeting in Dublin tomorrow, with new performance-related elements and assurances that institutional guidelines will be considered in future.

  
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# Scottish Power bid puts utilities back in favour

THE spotlight returned to the utility sector as a fresh wave of takeover talk swept the sector after Scottish Power's £1.56 billion hostile bid for Southern Water set the market alight.

Southern Water shares surged 26p to 941p, with Scottish Power's offer worth 975p a share, while a full cash alternative is worth 935.7p a share. However, traders said that it may not be plain sailing for the Scottish power group, which last year succeeded in buying Marwell in a £1.1 billion deal. Southern Electric, Southern Water's utility neighbour, signalled it was also interested in making a bid, making the likelihood of a takeover battle very likely.

Southern Electric, however, is half the size of Scottish Power and analysts said it may need a rights issue of up to £500 million to help to fund such move. It also remains to be seen how National Power, which retains an 8 per cent stake in Southern, will react. Southern Electric retreated 26p to 726p, while National Power firmed 2p to 519.5p.

Other utility groups were pushed higher on the news as traders tried to predict other possible bid targets. Yorkshire Water surged 53p to 690p, while Thames added 17p to 564p, Wessex 24p to 322p, Severn Trent 19.5p to 561p and Anglian 32p to 572p. United Utilities jumped 25p to 581p on reports that tomorrow's final results may carry a bumper dividend.

The renewed bid activity provided a lift for the rest of the equity market, though dealers reported very thin volumes and a negative start on Wall Street dented sentiment in late London trading. The FT-SE 100 index closed below its best ending up 8.1 points at 3,760.2. Second-liners, fuelled by the utilities, were more buoyant, with the FT-SE 250 finishing 14.4 points higher at 4,504.4. Volume only reached 528 million shares.

British Telecom was a good market, adding 5p to 340p, as volume swelled to more than ten million shares on a day when it announced price cuts for its UK business customers. BT was boosted after Morgan Stanley, the American securities house, issued a buy recommendation on the stock and upgraded its profit forecast.

Paul Marsh, telecoms analyst at Morgan Stanley, said



Simon Bentley, left, of Blacks Leisure, with Teddy Sheringham

that the BT share price has been weak since the Cable & Wireless deal collapsed, while he feels that regulatory uncertainty may have been overcome.

He adds that the valuation appears cheap on a dividend, growth and yield basis, while the balance sheet strength provides further support. Mr Marsh has raised his 1997 pre-tax profit forecast

It may be worth watching out for developments at Microvitec, the software and electronics group. The shares added 16p to 68p, backed up by a recent buy note from Credit Lyonnais Laing, the broker, which suggested a short-term target price of 97p, as the group is exposed to rapid growth markets.

by £200 million to £3.12 billion. C&W firmed 6p to 458p.

Elsewhere, profit-takers saw Marks & Spencer dip 4p to 457.5p as the shares went ex-dividend. The retailing group has enjoyed a strong run since its recent annual results and many in the City still believe the shares are undervalued. Credit Lyonnais Laing was among the firms that were more buoyant, with the FT-SE 250 finishing 14.4 points higher at 4,504.4. Volume only reached 528 million shares.

Blacks Leisure, the sports and leisurewear retailer where Simon Bentley is chairman and chief executive, advanced 13p to 143p after the company accompanied a 246 per cent surge in full-year pre-tax profits with an increased dividend.

British Biotech, whose volatile shares have had a strong run on the back of high hopes for its Marimastat cancer drug, added 48p to £28.28 as BZW issued put and call warrants on the stock.

Vendome units rose 15p to a record 629p on speculation that Richemont, its parent, is poised to buy the 30.3 per cent not already owned in the luxury goods group.

□ **GILT-EDGED:** It was a quiet day for gilts as dull overseas bond markets failed to provide any inspiration. They were slightly firmer at the start, but sellers appeared at higher levels and stocks drifted back during the session. Attention will switch to today's £3 billion gilt auction of 8 per cent Treasury 2021, which dealers expect to be reasonably covered.

The June series of the long gilt future ended unchanged at £1061.52, on thin volume of only 36,000 contracts traded. Most conventional stocks also ended unchanged, while index-linked firmed by a couple of ticks.

□ **NEW YORK:** A stronger than expected report on home sales sparked weakness in bonds and encouraged investors to take profits on Wall Street, where by midday the Dow Jones industrial average was 40.64 points lower at 5,722.2.

June series of the long gilt future ended unchanged at £1061.52, on thin volume of only 36,000 contracts traded. Most conventional stocks also ended unchanged, while index-linked firmed by a couple of ticks.

□ **WHITE SUGAR:** Prices were mixed, with the March futures up 1.5p to 130.50. The market was quiet, with

volume of 1,000 contracts traded.

□ **MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION:** Average fatstock prices at representative markets on May 27 were:

Beef (kg/lb) 119.02 112.00 103.94

lamb 10.41 -7.77 -10.41

lamb (kg/lb) 10.41 -7.77 -10.41</p

oy NatWe

THE  
TIMES**Landlord's good fortune**

SHARING a paddock with the chief executive of Asda clearly has its plus points. Archie Norman, who rents his farmhouse from Charles Den, managing director of Timothy Taylors in Yorkshire, has agreed to stock his supermarket shelves with his landlord's finest ale. Within the first week of the brew going on sale, Timothy Taylor's Landlord, brewed in Keighley, was sold out in 50 Asda superstores across the North. Apparently, the name of the ale has nothing to do with Norman's neighbour — it was christened in 1953.

**Squeezed out**

NEIL MARSHALL, long-time voice of the Retail Motor Industry Federation, is out of the spotlight after this week's shake-up. After 18 years with the organisation, most recently as director of public policy, Marshall was somewhat shocked to be told by Chris Macgowan, new chief executive, that he could leave at the end of this month. Rumours at the federation's Great Portland Street offices suggest that its leading spokesman was squeezed between Macgowan, in his new role as crusader, and Alan Puhlan, director of RMI's National Franchised Dealers' Association.



"Are the shares safe, or will they glow in the dark?"

**Island race**

WETHER Caroline Robins is crowned AA Landlady of the Year or not, her journey to the awards today certainly sets her apart. Having left her desk at Midland Bank in Guernsey four years ago, Robins moved with her husband to run Hotel Petit Champ on the tiny island of Sark. The same woman was cycling to the harbour at 4.30 this morning, where a specially chartered boat took her to Guernsey. Then it was a taxi ride to the airport, a flight to Gatwick, a train to Victoria, and a taxi to the Savoy. Robins, who will make the same journey in reverse tonight, says: "I must be back to serve breakfast."

**Supporting role**

LIAM DALTON, one of the models for Gordon Gecko in Oliver Stone's movie *Wall Street*, feels that something is missing in his life since the Eighties smash hit. City whiz-kid Dalton, who was crowned a partner at Bear Stearns only two years after leaving college in the US, lent actor Charlie Sheen his red braces for the movie, and they were never returned. Ron Insana, author of *Traders' Tales*, includes the anecdote in his collection published this month. Sheen claims that he can't find the trademark "suspenders" but Dalton thinks otherwise.

A SISTER restaurant of the Sloane-infested bistro *Fortress Oscar* is said to be opening up in the City. By the end of this week, restaurateur Michael Proudlock will know whether the City's best will be rubbing shoulders with the likes of Fergie's financial adviser, John Bryan, the Marquess of Blandford, and Diana Ross.

MORAG PRESTON

**C**amelot is poised for a fresh round of record profits. The figures, expected next week, will show that lottery ticket sales reached £5.2 billion in the year to March 31, generating a pre-tax profit of about £70 million. The amount after tax will reach about £47 million, or £900,000 a week. By the time the licence expires in September 2001, profits to Camelot could have topped £320 million. It is a remarkable figure.

The size of the profits will spark predictable howls of protest, and renew calls for Camelot to donate the excess to charity. It gave away about £500,000 in donations last year, and has budgeted for a similar amount in 1996 — not nearly enough to satisfy critics. Camelot will argue that it deserves to be rewarded for doing an exemplary job, and remind a sceptical public that it faces penalties of £1 million a day if it falls behind with the installation of National Lottery terminals.

The obvious winners are Camelot's shareholders: Cadbury Schweppes, De La Rue, ICL, GTech, and Racal Electronics, who took a significant risk in pitching for the lottery contract, but have been left holding what is effectively a licence to print money. Dividends paid out last year totalled £9.5 million. Whichever way you look at it, they are fast recouping their initial £50 million equity investment.

But the shareholders are just part of the story. They lie at the centre of an enormous web, one which reaches out to all corners of the UK, and beyond, and which has had a huge knock-on effect in employment and revenues.

Up to £90 million in ticket sales passes through the system each week, benefiting printers, technicians, telecoms experts and designers. There are rich pickings to be had.

The main beneficiaries include BT, which bills Camelot an estimated £11 million a year for servicing the National Lottery network. Camelot's telecom charges work out at more than £1,000 per lottery terminal per year, split between Racal, which provides access to its Government Data Network, and BT, which provides the lines linking retailers with various "concentrators". BT's charges are estimated at 50 per cent of the annual cost per terminal.

With 22,000 online terminals and rising, BT's charges are certain to exceed £11 million. BT confirmed that Camelot is one of its largest customers for private circuits. Other telecom companies involved include Mercury, Energis (the telecoms arm of the National Grid), and Kingston Communications, which links about



From terminals to telecom providers and ticket printers to PR advisers, plenty of businesses are enjoying a golden age under Camelot

## Spreading the millions up and down the land



10 per cent of retailers to the network via satellite. In terms of headline numbers, it is hard to match Camelot's advertising spend, which is estimated at 1 per cent of sales a year — a tidy £52 million or so. The winners are the ITV companies, which received about £33 million in advertising from Camelot last year, according to submissions to MPs.

There is less cheer for the BBC, which pays Camelot substantial (but undisclosed) sums for the right to broadcast *National Lottery Live*. MPs think it "unacceptable" for Camelot to sell the right to broadcast the lottery draw results, whatever the ratings.

The sheer scale of advertising will have been welcome at Cordiant, the advertising agency formerly known as Saatchi & Saatchi, which has suffered a turbulent year after the departure of the eponymous brother.

Billings are not disclosed, but Cordiant will be well-rewarded for a task that runs from designing posters to creating TV commercials.

Hefty fees are on hand for Camelot's key advisers, including Price Waterhouse, auditor; SBC Warburg, financial adviser; McKenna & Co, legal adviser; and Royal Bank of Scotland, banker.

Brunswick, the City PR firm, steered Camelot through the fiercely competitive licence-bidding round, using strategies normally reserved for City takeover bids. It will have collected a substantial success fee for its work, and continues to advise Camelot.

GTech has individually retained Lowe Bell, led by Sir Tim Bell, to steer it through the rougher patches.

Regional PR is in the hands of yet another firm, Hall Harrison Cowley, which has offices from Plym-

outh to Manchester. The trio of agencies complement Camelot's substantial in-house operation.

Hands-on suppliers range from Chubb Wardens, which provides security guards, to Sunlife, which provides catering, but it is in the physical production of tickets and materials that the real riches lie. Key beneficiaries include Stralors, a Swedish-owned specialist printer, which prints 75 per cent of National Lottery play-slips, and Pallets are

handy for consulting services.

Camelot can afford to be sanguine. As Peter Murphy, Camelot's finance director, puts it: "It's no accident that Camelot is the second most efficient lottery operator in the world after New Jersey. We have a policy of full disclosure. We don't hide things."

based in Kilmarnock, near Glasgow. A spokesman said: "It is a wonderful contract, supplying the biggest brand name in the UK. It has put the company on a solid financial footing." Profits are undisclosed, but Ritchie's turnover is £12 million to £15 million a year.

Another winner is Digital (UK), a subsidiary of the American computer manufacturer, which supplies the mainframe computers that power the lottery, and has technicians on permanent call. Some £4 million was invested in seven computers, and Camelot is soon to embark on upgrading its disks at an estimated cost of £1.5 million. Other suppliers include Declease, the computer leasing company.

Instant tickets are manufactured by Scientific Games, based in Atlanta, Georgia. They are shipped in by container and delivered to the Camelot distribution centre in Northampton, for onward shipment by Parcelforce, the parcels arm of the Post Office. Parcelforce has six or seven staff permanently on site.

Point of sale material is distributed to retailers by Target Express, a parcel distribution company. Martin Kenyon, regional general manager, said Camelot was a prestige customer, which made a "substantial" contribution to the company's £60 million-plus turnover.

Print & Marketing Services, based in Derby, collates Camelot's point of sale, display and merchandise materials. It also supplies a range of printed materials. The contract has given rise to six new jobs, and provided increased financial security for employees. Arfoma International, based in Loughborough, makes Instant dispensers and lottery play stations. NDI Display, based in Winslow, Cheshire, equipped more than 10,000 retailers with display and promotional material. David Green Displays, of Leicester, prints handbooks for retailers.

Attention next week will inevitably swing back to the main Camelot shareholders, who are braced for the predictable cat-calls. They play varying roles, with GTech as the backbone.

ICL assembles computers supplied in kit form by GTech, and trains retailers through Peritas, its subsidiary. Racal supplies the lines. Cadbury Schweppes and De La Rue

provide consulting services.

Camelot can afford to be sanguine. As Peter Murphy, Camelot's finance director, puts it: "It's no accident that Camelot is the second most efficient lottery operator in the world after New Jersey. We have a policy of full disclosure. We don't hide things."

## Beware of the sharks at Camelot's Fort Knox

**T**he sign in a corner of Camelot's top security warehouse in Northampton says it all: "Sharks Must Be Fed By Authorised Personnel Only." Behind the sign, thousands of gallons of water fill an aluminium-steel tank ready to feed a sprinkler system at the first hint of fire. Pallets are stacked three-high, filled with instant games to the value of £600 million.

Intruders to Camelot's Fort Knox might well find themselves fed to the sharks — but they would have to find it first. The warehouse is unmarked, and would not attract more than a passing glance. For all its anonymity, it is the hub of an enterprise that draws on suppliers from Scotland to Cornwall and relies on the tightest security. Anyone attempting to make

### Numbers that make operation add up

**B**y the end of this week, or possibly next, the amount paid by Camelot to good causes will pass the £2 billion mark. The figure is one of dozens of statistics churned out by the Camelot enterprise. It will not be the last.

By Saturday night, £5.4 billion in online lottery tickets had been sold since the till opened in November 1994. Sales of instant tickets reached £1.7 billion, making total lottery sales of £7.1 billion. The amount payable to the National Lottery Distribution Fund (NLD) reached £1.9 billion. Lottery duty, at 12 per cent, totals £832 million, while retailers on 5 per cent, have received £355 million.

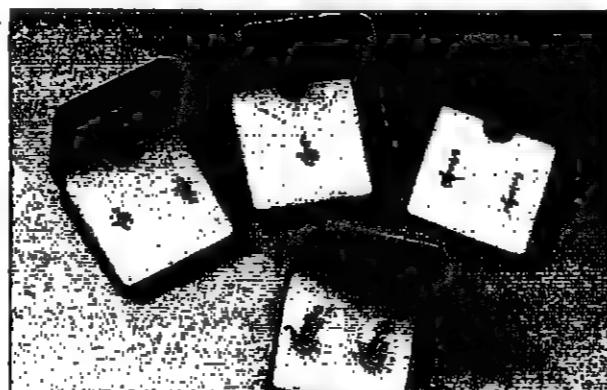
About £39 million was spent marketing the lottery launch. Mailshots went out to 21.8 million homes, and 30 million "How To Play" leaflets were distributed.

The scale of the operation guarantees a busy time for the telephone hotline team at Camelot's headquarters, near Warrington, Cheshire, which fields 17,000 calls a week from retailers. Telephonists are equipped with a diagnostic system that allows them to "see" inside individual terminals. A 120-strong team works in shifts, taking calls from 6am to 11pm. More than 1.7 million calls have been taken since launch — enough to keep one person occupied for 70 years.

The National Lottery Line, at Aintree, near Liverpool, fields an estimated 30,000 calls from the public each week.



Camelot's base handles 17,000 calls a week from retailers



Merchandise carrying the official National Lottery symbol includes gold-plated cufflinks, top, fridge magnets and key rings and computer programs

## Expertise but an image problem

**E**very aspect of the National Lottery relies on the technical skill of GTech, the American lottery operator and supplier — but there are times when its fellow Camelot shareholders must wish otherwise. From the moment the lottery licence was thrown open to tender, controversy and GTech have gone hand in glove.

GTech is second to none in lottery expertise, but the problem was one of image. Was it appropriate that a company that had saluted close to the wind (nothing against it has ever been proved) should be allowed a lucrative slice of a huge British money-spinner?

The rub, as Peter Davis, the lottery regulator, admitted to MPs on the Public Accounts Committee, was that just about all the operators that applied had black marks against them. GTech was by no means the worst offender. The choice was

either to allow one to participate on its technical strengths, suitably muzzled, or to drop the idea of a lottery altogether.

GTech will not disclose how much it is making from its UK contract, but the 1995 annual report provides some clues. The company supplies the software that makes the lottery "tick", and receives a service fee for providing technical assistance. A hotline is always open to GTech's headquarters in Rhode Island.

Service revenue aside, GTech is entitled to 22.5 per cent of any dividend to Camelot shareholders. It has received

about £2.2 million so far, with the possibility of more to come following next week's results. GTech paid \$17.1 million for its stake in Camelot.

Camelot was GTech's second-highest revenue-producing customer in the year to February 25, 1995 — a period that takes in the lottery start-up together with the first three months of operations. Overall product sales for fiscal 1995 were \$12 million higher, at \$147.3 million, largely because of the sale of component parts and equipment for the UK lottery. GTech provides terminals in kit form for assembly by ICL.

GTech made little margin on the sale of National Lottery parts and equipment. However, revenues from UK operations made "significant contributions" to service and product sales revenues in fiscal 1995. The latest annual report is due next month.

**TOMORROW: Brass bands and corner shops hit the winning numbers**

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#### INFORMATION SERVICE



## ■ BLUES

Keb' Mo' charms on debut as the action-packed London Blues Festival (almost) hits its stride



## ■ CABARET

... while at the Café Royal the former child-star Bonnie Langford displays a new vocal maturity

## THE TIMES ARTS



## ■ POP

Punk reincarnate: the Irish trio Ash confirm the golden opinions won with their debut album



## ■ TOMORROW

Reviews of Manic Street Preachers and the first night of the Open-Air Theatre in Regent's Park

## ■ JAZZ

## A song in every colour

Marian McPartland  
Wigmore Hall

AS MARIAN McPARTLAND announced, in her demure, slightly Americanised accent, that her opening number would be *I'm Old-Fashioned*, a guffaw exploded from somewhere at the front of the audience. Having led an expatriate existence for so many years, McPartland may have the manners and bearing of the Englishwoman abroad, yet "old-fashioned" is definitely the last word to describe her musical tastes.

Anyone who places *Turn-around*, a slice of early Ornette Coleman, on the same programme as Duke Ellington's *Ishahan* is clearly not looking for a quiet life. Half a century after she scandalised her impeccably middle-class family by taking up with jazz and the high-spirited cornetist Jimmy McPartland, she is still making records of a remarkable consistency.

The last time I heard her live, two years ago, she chased those two young guns, Christian McBride and Brian Blade, all around the auditorium in an exuberant performance in Harlem. Though her more restrained trio and quartet recital at the Wigmore Hall — the final instalment in the venue's *Jazz Encounters* chamber series — betrayed signs of a slowing of reflexes, her use of colour and contrast remained unimpaired.

All *The Things You Are* took off on a fugue-like excursion reminiscent of John Lewis, before suddenly dropping in a quotation from *Rockin' in Rhythm*. *Gone with the Wind* was rebuilt around a glimmering, low-register obligato supplied by John Dankworth's clarinet.

A pity that the other settings were not as varied, many of them lapsing into a mundane pattern of bass and drum solos. Alec Dankworth and Allan Garney are both admirable players, but even they are capable of only so many variations on that particular theme. McPartland happens to be an unusually resourceful solo improviser, as she demonstrated on her 1991 Maybegg Hall recital. Given the unforgiving acoustics — ideal for chamber music, of course, but not so hospitable to jazz — duets and unaccompanied pieces would have been doubly welcome.

CLIVE DAVIS

FESTIVALS: Venue-hopping in search of the Bank Holiday weekend blues in London; jazz at its most beguiling in Bath



"A bunch of soloists looking for a band": the Fabulous Thunderbirds headlined the London Blues Festival, but they were not the hottest act on show

## Looking for Mr 12-bar

THE second London Blues Festival started on a high note and ended on a disappointing — if not missed — one. In between times in this all-American line-up, several reputations were confirmed and some were made.

It was bigger and better than last year's event, but work still needs to be done on the programming. Splitting it between two centres and subjecting it to some quirky scheduling (why did the first night of the festival at Watermans, Brentford, only start at 10.45pm and feature just two acts?) made a comprehensive overview of the three days of gigs difficult. A trip to see the Fabulous Thunderbirds, the closing act at Blackheath Concert Halls on Sunday, meant missing Clarence "Gatemouth" Brown at Watermans.

The opening high came courtesy of acoustic guitarist Kevin Moore, alias Keb' Mo'. His debut album, released last year, revealed him as an outstanding talent, able to reinterpret classics such as Robert Johnson's *Kind Red-Eyed Woman Blues* and *Come On in My Kitchen* in a fresh and appealing way as well as provide original songs which combined superb guitar playing with an almost caressing vocal style.

His live act added another dimension — there is power in his playing too, including a string of stunning guitar licks he told us he had learnt

from Eugene Powell, the Mississippi bluesman who first recorded in 1936. It was unfortunate that such an extrovert one was followed by such an intense one as John Hammond, whose brooding interpretations of Delta classics such as *Drop Down Mama* were fine in their way, but just served to quieten an audience ready to have some fun. That is not to say that Hammond was not good value. There can be few artists who get so involved in their music as he does as, with back arched, eyes closed and veins bulging, he lost himself in each number. The problem was that the effort seemed largely wasted in front of an audience that was merely intent on having a good time.

The acoustic theme was developed by another young back-to-the-roots musician, Corey Harris. A former teacher, and one of the few bluesmen around with a masters degree in anthropology, Harris, mild and affable onstage, proved to be a commanding and aggressive figure on it, slapping his guitar and lapsing, at times, into almost Howlin' Wolf-like growling

vocals. On a day when the weather was less than kind, it was nice to hear him sing: "I was standing in Blackheath, my feet got soaking wet/I was waiting for my baby and she ain't come yet."

If Harris had been worth waiting for, then so was James Carr — even if the wait had been a little prolonged. It was back in the 1960s that rhythm and blues aficionados would whisper that, although Otis Redding was the most popular soul singer of his era, there was another performer who could give him a run for his money as far as soul ballads were concerned.

That artist was Carr, and there was one song in particular, an aching, poignant number about a cheating called *The Dark End of the Street* which was arguably one of the finest moments of that particularly rich and fertile period.

But the fragile state of his health meant that Carr never achieved the success he deserved. He disappeared for long periods, and it is only in recent years that he has been rediscovered and started recording again.

Making his UK debut, he looked nervous and frail — until he began to

sing. In a voice strong, rich and powerful he reprised all his early hits and provided a version of *Street* that was one of the festival's high spots.

If Carr had taken us into Southern soul territory, then Magic Slim and the Teardrops brought us firmly back into the blues world and its spiritual home, Chicago. Tight wasn't the word for it. Here was a four-piece band that needed only the briefest of guitar licks immediately to impose its authority. Driven by some rock-solid drumming and bass lines, they barely paused between numbers as they gave a superb display of what Chicago blues should be — a dynamism that was controlled and a passion that wasn't.

The Fabulous Thunderbirds then had the opportunity to provide a fitting finale, but failed to do so. Again it was a matter of contrasts. Where Slim was tight and controlled, the Thunderbirds were looser and, it seemed, less focused. There is no denying the skill of virtuoso harmonica player and vocalist Kim Wilson or of guitarist Kid Ramos, but the power and good feelings were filtered away in self-indulgent solos that lasted so long you forgot what the song was. There were some marvellous moments, but you couldn't help get the feeling that here was a bunch of soloists looking for a band.

JOHN CLARKE

## Never mind the Pistols ...

## POP

Ash  
Forum, NW5

Ash's music is rooted firmly in the cut and thrust of 1970s punk.

That is not to say that they ape the classic punk mannerisms on stage — far from it.

They certainly played both fast and loud when the movement demanded it, and almost lifted the roof off the Forum with their parting shot of *Jack Names the Planets*, followed by a confetti-strewn encore of *Kung Fu*.

But they also tackled many

mid-paced and slow-paced songs, including *Oh Yeah* and *Lost in You* the latter sounding disconcertingly like *Strangers in the Night* with just as much conviction, and cracked in a competent cover of the old Temptations hit, *Get Ready*, for good measure. The ringing, melodic detail of their singles *Girl From Mars* and *Goldfinger* — both played early on in the set — remained in the mid-long after their show had finished.

Drummer Rick McMurray (stiff-backed, total lack of swing) and bassist Mark Hamilton (barefoot, instrument round his ankles) both looked and sounded perpetually busy. But singer, guitarist and chief songwriter Tim

Wheeler evinced a peculiarly languid stage persona, never appearing unduly hurried or indeed much bothered as glitter balls and brilliant lights sparked and juddered all around and scenes of mayhem unfolded in the crowd before him.

If the sound was a little rough on the ear, and Wheeler's vocals rather subject to drift, these were minor flaws that went with the territory and did nothing to diminish the palpable sense of occasion.

In this improbably rich season of pop discoveries, yet another major talent has come of age.

DAVID SINCLAIR

## If her friends can see her now

## CABARET

Bonnie Langford  
Green Room

arranger and musical director, on piano. Nick Moss, fluent on saxophones, clarinet and flute, impresses mightily. Rufus Philpott (bass), Joe O'Connor (keyboards) and Matthew Senior (drums) complete an enviably well-integrated band, with whom she is on musically equal terms.

Only a tendency to rush her

links, with a hint of "gosh-darn, isn't-showbiz-fun", remains Langford's early, precious years. Much more to the point is the assured, even raunchy manner of her handling of material ranging from *Some Cats Know to He Play Piano in the Dark*.

There are show tunes, but cannily chosen: apart from a nicely judged *Somewhere That's Green*, from *The Little Shop of Horrors*, the best are a group from *Gypsy* — *Some People and Together Wherever We Go* — and a superb routine tying together *Hay Big Spender*, *There's Gotta Be*

*Something Better Than This*, *If They Could See Me Now*, *Somebody Loves Me* and *Rhythm of Life*. Casting agents seeing her tackle these would be sorting out the contracts next morning.

Although complaining of a dry throat, she turns in a virtuous *I'm Tone Deaf*, a comic showstopper which, with an athletic performance of Tom Lehrer's *Masochism Tango*, underlines a sense of humour which extends to self-parody. Neil Sedaka's *On the Other Side of Me* has particular resonance, while confident versions of *Take Me to the River*, *Nowhere To Run* and (amazingly) James Brown's *I Got You* suggest tastes tougher than you thought. An altogether surprising and exhilarating evening.

TONY PATRICK

Bring forth thou this fiend of Scotland...

## Macbeth



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## NUREMBERG

War Crimes Trial

Edited by Richard Norton-Taylor

Directed by Nicolas Kent

"COULD HARDLY BE MORE TIMELY"

The Guardian

"THIS IS AN EVENING THAT FORCES THE AUDIENCE TO CONFRONT THE DARKNESS OF MAN'S HEART WITH SOBER SERIOUSNESS AND A MINIMUM OF SENSATIONALISM"

Daily Telegraph

"IT IS AN OUTSTANDING SUCCESS... THERE ARE BRILLIANT PERFORMANCES"

Sunday Telegraph

"GRIPPING METICULOUS RECONSTRUCTION... THE ACTING IS VERY FINE"

The Independent

"AN INTENSELY POWERFUL DRAMATISATION"

Independent on Sunday

"THIS TREMENDOUS EVENING... THE THEATRE AT ITS BEST AS A MORAL FORCE"

Sunday Times

"GRIPPING, PROVOKING PIECE OF THEATRE... RIVETINGLY TENSE AS THE BEST COURTROOM THRILLER... ACTED WITH HUGE CONVICTION, EVEN BY THOSE WHO HAVE FEW OR NO LINES"

Evening Standard

"IMPECCABLE... IMPRESSIVE... CHALLENGING"

Time Out

"AND GIVE A RESPONSE"

EX-YUGOSLAVIA HAITI RWANDA

"THESE PLAYS FORCEFULLY LOCATE THE PRINCIPLE OF NUREMBERG - THAT INDIVIDUALS ARE PERSONALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR WAR CRIMES IN THE PRESENT DAY"

Independent on Sunday



■ CHOICE 1  
Steven Berkoff  
brings his fierce  
*Coriolanus*  
to London

VENUE: Now in preview  
at the Mermaid Theatre



■ CHOICE 2  
Song and dance,  
Thirties-style:  
Kim Criswell leads  
*Dames at Sea*

VENUE: This week at the  
Ambassadors Theatre

## THE TIMES ARTS



■ CHOICE 3  
Greenwich hears  
John Tavener's new  
composition,  
*Let's Begin Again*

VENUE: Tonight at the  
Royal Naval College



■ VISUAL ART  
In front of the  
children: Kate  
Greenaway's book  
illustrations are  
shown alongside  
her successors

### London

**CORIOLANUS:** Steven Berkoff's much-hyped production arrives in London with himself as a snarling, car-breaking fascist. *Mermaid, Pudding Dock, EC4* (0171-236 2211). Preview begins tonight, 7.30pm. Opens June 12, 7pm. **□**

**DAMES AT SEA:** Kim Criswell, Sara Crowe, Peter Duncan in the first two musicals in the BOC Covert Garden Festival's 7 comedy musical in the style of the 1930s. Directed by Tim Wise. *Gardens* (0171-312 1998). Preview tonight, 8pm. Opens tomorrow, 8pm.

**FRANCIS PREMIERE:** The conductor Christophe Rousset makes his debut with the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment. *Saint-Saëns' *Bacchus* and Rameau's *Acis et Galatea** in Handel's *Acis et Galatea*. *St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, WC2* (0171-312 1998). Preview tonight, 8pm. Opens tomorrow, 8pm.

**LET'S BEGIN AGAIN:** The highlight of this year's Edinburgh International Festival is the London premiere of John Tavener's new work, *Let's Begin Again*, with Lionel Friend conducting the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, British Soloists and the English Chamber Choir. *Rozario*. The evening begins with Philip Stimers conducting a programme of

### TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts  
and entertainment  
compiled by Gillian Mawby

**20TH-CENTURY CAPSULE:** A 20th-century capsule work, by Cope, Barber and Tippet. *Royal Naval College Chapel, Greenwich* (box office 0181-316 9567) Tonight, 7.30pm.

**ELSEWHERE:** *BARTH:* The dynamic young American soprano Tiffany-Jackson gives a recital in the Assembly Room. Thomas Hardy's *Pocketful of Sevens*, violin and piano by Fletcher, *St. Martin-in-the-Fields* (0171-236 2211). Tonight, 7.45pm. Then Mon-Sat 7.45pm; matinée Wed June 3, 12.30pm. *Barth* until June 22.

**MOUL:** *Mindless and Madness* presents *Judge the Children*. Thomas Hardy's classic story of four people trying to reconcile love, honour and justice. Adapted and directed by Mike Alfreds. *Theatre Clwyd* (01325 356114). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm; matinée Sat 3pm.

**LONDON GALLERIES:** *Barber, Dixie, Jeremy, Alice, Flora, Dorothea, Alice, 1901-02* (0171-41415). *Lissomian Alcestis*: Godfrey Tonks (0171-620 1322). *Mad Galleries*: Royal Society of Portrait Painters (0171-6844). *Illustration*: *London Illustration* (0171-620 0867). *Medieval Gallery*: *Doges* (0171-747 2895). *Medieval Portrait Gallery*: *The Room in View* (0171-308 0069). *Tate Britain*: *Monet's Water Lilies* (0171-235 8000). *Whitewash*: *Ronito Guitars* (0171-728 7895).

**BEAT ON THE MOON:** Richard Kalinowski's award-winning play about two survivors of the 1919 Armenian massacre in Turkey. *Millennium*. Directed by Irena Brzozka. *BAC* (171-226 2229). Tue-Sat 8pm; Sun 5pm. Until June 2.

**CHAPTER TWO:** Tom Cavan and Sharon Horgan in a new *Not the Nine O'Clock News* episode each week. *Ned Simon's comedy*. Not his best. *Glengary*, *Shakespeare Avenue, W1* (0171-494 5065). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.15pm; matinée Thurs 8pm, Sat 8pm.

**CONCERTS:** *ENTERTAINERS:* The New Zealanders' *Entertainers* open with *Classical Jukebox*, a mix of the Band's double-bill mix with *Death* and *Paula Wilcox*.

**OPEN AIR:** *Regent's Park, NW1* (0171-480 2424). Sat, 8pm, matinée from June 12. 2.30pm. *Opera* in the Park on Thurs and Sun, 2.20pm.

**THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE:** The RSC's (Reduced Shakespeare Company) popular, polly-mouthed production of all of Shakespeare's plays, *Shakespeare's Globe, Cribbs Causeway, Bristol, BS1* (0171-369 1271). *Mon-Sat 7.30pm; Sun, 2pm, 4pm*.

**THE DEVIL IS AN ASS:** *Barth*. Jones's adventures of a junior devil in a sleepy London he soon finds to be a world apart from Hell. An energetic but hollow production.

**NEW RELEASES:** *ANGUS* (12): Falak lights off his bullets. *Time* turns movie that means well. *With Charlie and Kathy* (12): *With Charlie and Kathy* (12). *Directed by Richard Johnson* (0000-868 997).

**UNE CHANSON FRANÇAISE** (16): High-class, with Emmanuel Béart and Daniel Auteuil. *Introducing 30 years of French history*. *Directed by Pélissier Warner*, *Caron Mayfair* (0171-389 1720).

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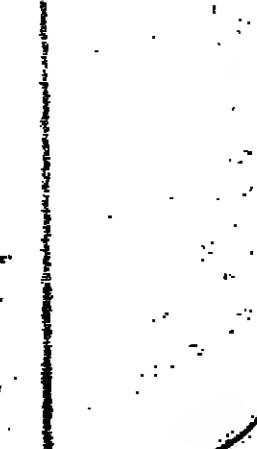
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THE TIMES WEDNESDAY MAY 29 1996



**MUSIC**

Classical and jazz meet in a music-theatre piece that has its roots in personal tragedy



**DANCE**

Wim Vandekeybus brings his brand of conspicuous aggression to the Turning World festival

THE  
ARTS



**OFFER**

Cut-price tickets for the superb National Youth Music Theatre at the Covent Garden Festival



**OFFER**

... and for Marti Webb singing *Evita* in Southampton: see our Theatre Club panel below

**MUSIC:** Family tragedy lies behind a new work by one of Britain's finest composers. James Woodall reports

## Jazz-tinged elegy for a lost brother

Jazz fans will know the names of John Scofield, who played guitar for Miles Davis; and Peter Erskine, who played drums for the jazz-rock band Weather Report. The biggest jazz fan in British contemporary classical music is the 35-year-old composer Mark-Anthony Turnage. His new work, *Blood on the Floor* — commissioned by the Frankfurt-based Ensemble Modern — was written with these American players, particularly Scofield, in mind.

Last weekend in Frankfurt, Turnage was in heaven. Scofield and Erskine had arrived at the *Fabrik* — or "factory" — where the Ensemble Modern has its offices. Four days of rehearsal lay ahead. Erskine has been one of the most sought-after drummers for two decades. He joined Weather Report in 1978, at the height of the group's fame. Scofield had cut his teeth as guitarist with Charlie Mingus and Billy Cobham before joining Miles Davis in 1982. He has made many solo recordings since.

Turnage is a fan of both. "Two years ago," he says on the second day of rehearsals, "I didn't have a clue about how to get in touch with people like Scofield and Erskine. The jazz and classical worlds are so divided. Never in my dreams would I have thought that I'd be sitting in that rehearsal room with Scofield and Erskine."

The fact that the Ensemble Modern is behind the new piece helps. Recently this multinational, leaderless group, who make their decisions collectively, performed Frank Zappa's *The Yellow Shark* in London. Since coming together in 1980 they have worked with various celebrated jazz musicians, including Ornette Coleman. Turnage's relationship with the Ensemble began in 1988. It performed the world premiere of his opera *Greek* in Munich. Turnage's next piece, *Kai*, was a tribute to Kai Scheffler, a cellist and one of the Ensemble's

founder members who died of Aids shortly after the *Munich Greek*. *Blood on the Floor* was initially inspired by Francis Bacon's painting showing a splash of blood on a wooden floor. (Bacon was central to Turnage's famous *Three Screaming Poppies*, commissioned by Simon Rattle and the CBSO in 1990.) The piece that is now the overture to the new nine-movement work was premiered by the Ensemble in late 1994. Little did they or Turnage know, once composition was under

**If only he could know that a piece is being played in memory of him**

way, what deeper and darker impetus the full piece would ride on a few months later.

In March 1995, Turnage's younger brother Andrew was found dead from a drug overdose. For the previous six months he had cut himself off from his family, including Mark-Anthony. They had always been close. Turnage knew nothing about the drug addiction.

"Andrew was warm-hearted," Turnage recalls, "and an amazingly naive guy, in the positive sense. He never used to do anything in excess. But because he was very trusting, he got in with some people he was very impressed with. He got into crack, and died of a lethal dose of heroin and cocaine."

*Blood on the Floor* has turned into a tribute to Turnage's brother. Its theme is urban alienation, but it is also full of bold, textured lyricism and — naturally — plenty of jazz.

way, what deeper and darker impetus the full piece would ride on a few months later.

In all his work from *Screaming Poppies*, Turnage has borrowed brilliantly from jazz's improvisatory rhythms and textures. He has done so without any of the preciousness of more high-minded composers, and a marked lack of the anorak expertise of the conventional jazz freak.

This appealing, unpretentiousness was wonderfully on show in Frankfurt. During a rehearsal break, Erskine and Scofield jammed together for ten minutes, a superb little duet of just electric guitar and drums. The Ensemble's players were transfixed. Standing closest of all the two Americans was Turnage, smiling broadly.

"I'm a bit of a fan of people," he said later. "In a sense, I'm really just a stenographer."

• *Blood on the Floor* will be played at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4342) tomorrow and Friday at 8pm

**DEGAS: BEYOND IMPRESSIONISM — DAY FIVE**

Richard Cork selects highlights from the National Gallery's current exhibition of later works by the master

A host of pictures testify to Degas' obsession with this pose. Like so many of his bathing figures, the woman's face is turned away from us, so nothing distracts us from the vigorous movement of her body. Flushed with warmth from the hot water, she rubs the nape of her neck with a towel wrapped firmly around her hand. Degas' virtuoso command of the pastel medium allows him to convey the towel's fluffiness.

But he is just as persuasive in his treatment of her glowing flesh. This deserves to be ranked among the most sensuous of all Degas' nudes. It is a delectable image, and far more celebratory than later, more disturbing pictures in the same series. Degas rejoices in the rumpled movement of the dangling towel, and reinforces its dynamism in the curtains' even greater turbulence. Cascading down from the top of the picture, and invading her body on the right, they set the whole composition into billowing motion.

Degas' use of pastel becomes very exciting above her shoulder, where he peppers the image with stalks of whiteness. But the focus ultimately rests on the woman's body, modelled with subtlety and vigour by the most searching, resourceful draughtsman of his era.

• *Degas: Beyond Impressionism* is at the National Gallery until Aug 26 (tickets from First Call, 0171-420 0000)

• Tomorrow, Richard Cork continues his Degas guide with a discussion of *Woman at her bath* (c. 1893-98)



Degas the draughtsman: *After the bath*, c.1890-93

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## THE ARTS



Cut-price tickets for the superb National Youth Music Theatre at the Covent Garden Festival



... and for Marti Webb singing *Evita* in Southampton: see our Theatre Club panel below

## Packing a punch

THE Turning World festival is an annual celebration of contemporary dance from abroad. This year's edition includes the latest from Berlin's Sasha Waltz, Prague's Lenka Flory, Montpellier's Mathilde Monnier, Valencia's Vicente Saez. But the festival opened with a look back, at the first work created by the Belgian choreographer Wim Vandekeybus.

*What the Body Does Not Remember*, made in 1987, belongs to that brand of dance-theatre that was so popular in the Eighties: all power, punch and peril. Objects are thrown — most frightening are what appear to be concrete bricks — and dancers are subjected to intense physical pressures. The

Wim Vandekeybus  
The Place Theatre

audience is left reeling. There is a repetition and perseverance to the choreography that suggests an epic struggle (albeit not without its humour) to overcome the obstacles of a frenetic world. The work's emotional heart is revealed in scenes, some harrowing, others heart-breakingly futile, that could be realisations of a group therapy session on anger and frustration.

Dancers, from Vandekeybus's Ultima Vez company, sling the concrete slabs at each other like deranged stone masons, having a collective nervous breakdown, while others use them to build precarious bridges. The dancers endure body-pounding duets that are charged with sexual aggression and male-female antagonism. Even the surreal background (music by Thierry De Mey and Peter Vermeersch) is brutal.

Although Vandekeybus uses parallel images of manipulation at the beginning and end, *What the Body Does Not Remember* is not set within a cohesive structure. Instead the effect is like that of a carousel: it doesn't matter where you get on, the ride is always the same.

DEBRA CRAINE



"The jazz and classical worlds are so divided," says Mark-Anthony Turnage. He was brought up in the classical idiom, but his new work *Blood on the Floor* was written with top jazz musicians in mind

## THE ARTS

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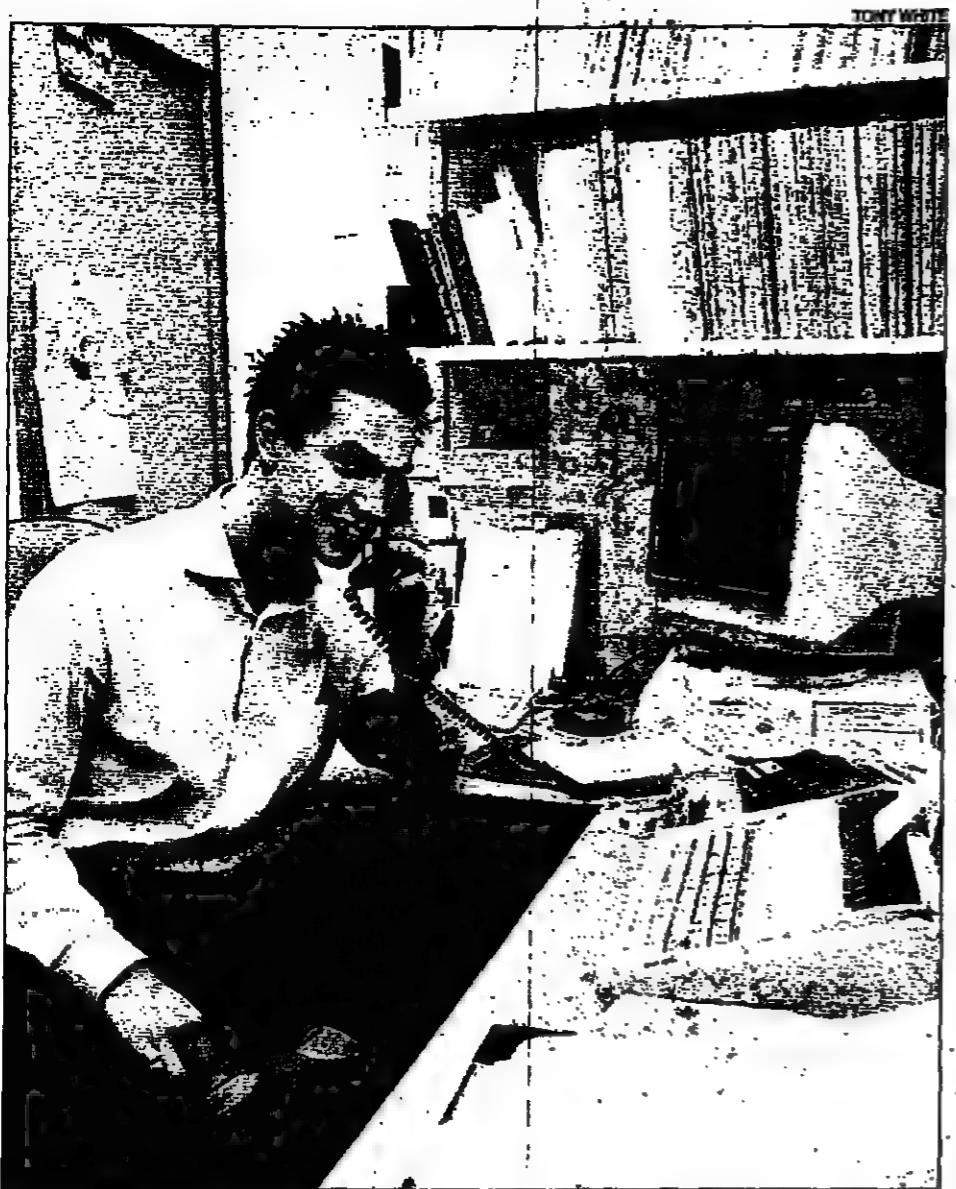
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**RENTALS**



Robert Collins has a first-class Oxford degree, but started work as a part-time typist

# Keyboard key to a career

Secretaries are no longer confined to the typing pool, and the job is recognised as a potential launching pad to much greater responsibility, writes Julia Lewis

I never entered my head to seek promotion when I was a secretary in the Sixties. I did change jobs, but only to move sideways, usually because I felt it was time to try something new.

Graduates were in a different league. They may have started at the bottom, but their fingers never touched the keyboard. They were the future high-flyers, we were the ones left behind, pounding away on our uprights.

Today's situation can hardly be more different, partly because of the recession and partly changing attitudes and expectations. Secretarial work is beginning to be recognised — by both bosses and employees — as an invaluable training ground. Those who score it may well be losing out.

Both men and women graduates and non-graduates alike, are now often starting off at the same level — doing a job that involves typing the boss's letters, whether called assistant, co-ordinator or secretary. While some are doing the job for its own sake, many are seeing it as a way of getting a foot in the door, and of gaining experience.

"Men are expected to type now," says Jago Irwin, 24, an architectural history graduate who has realised he may lose out without keyboard skills. He is employed in the post-

room of actors and writers agents Peters Fraser & Dunlop, having done a series of "odd and ends" in the way of jobs. To make the vital leap from post-room to agent's assistant, he is about to take a typing course.

The same firm employs

Robert Collins, 23, who has a first-class degree in modern languages from Oxford, as a part-time typist. Mr Collins, who works for the agent Anthony Jones, went to St James Secretarial College, believing it "a useful thing to do". When the job turned up, it seemed perfect — he had the afternoons free to write his novel. Opportunities are there, says Mr Collins: "Already I'm doing a bit more apart from the typing — they're delegating things to me simply by dint of being here, knowing the clients and what is going on. And, of course, by typing Anthony's letters I get a good idea of what he's doing."

Design graduate Lucy MacKenzie, 23, found it hard to

survive in the competitive world of design — despite having won a Habitat competition — and reluctantly resorted to a secretarial course.

Through the recruitment agency Angela Mortimer she found a job as production secretary with SFTV, the independent television company

If you don't make an effort, you will not get on. The people who do are those who notice things that need doing without being asked'

which makes programmes for BBC schools television. A year later, she's "smiled" with her change of prospects. She is now a production co-ordinator and has already designed several props for a series.

With only one O-level, Emma Finch, 24, felt her future was bleak. "I just wanted to teach myself something that would take me up

the ladder," she says. Without time or the means to take a course, she used the computer in the local library to work through the Word for Windows tutorial and teach-yourself typing programme.

Her opportunity to put her new skills into practice came

while she was a temporary receptionist in an insurance company.

"They kept giving me different things to do and then realised that I could do more. I started typing letters, using the database, and dealing with customers."

Miss Finch showed such potential that one of the bosses, leaving for a rival

firm, took her with him as his

assistant. "Did they get back to you?"

Most young secretaries

would agree that they quickly

gain confidence as well as

experience by virtue of being

in the job. Claire Morgan, 21,

who trained at Queen's Marlbrough College after her A-levels, says that when she

started in the management consultancy division of the

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PA TO DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

An excellent opportunity has arisen for a Director's Secretary within this prestigious property consultancy. You will possess initiative and common sense and be a strong communicator with a confident and outgoing personality. The role will involve a high volume of audio typing for which your grammar and spelling must be first class. Your level of work experience will be less important than the personal attributes which you will bring to a young and lively department.

For further information please telephone Jennifer Irrell on 0171 493 8668 or send your CV with a covering letter to:

**MANPOWER**  
There's more for you

## Secretary

£18,500 + Benefits

We are currently seeking a dynamic, outgoing and organised person to provide full secretarial and PA support functions to the Managing Director and two others.

The successful applicant will have good keyboard skills, shorthand, good knowledge of Microsoft Professional and the ability to work under pressure with a good telephone manner.

If you are interested in applying for this challenging and varied position with our company, please send your CV and current salary details to Francis Lavery.

**Warrantech Europe Plc**  
Grice House,  
21a Marylebone Road  
London NW1 6JD

### LETTINGS NEGOTIATOR

Estimate £20,000 +

You will probably be in your 20s or 30s and possess excellent communication and organisational skills. You will be able to be in an administration/PA/secretarial role in another similar agency. We are one of the most prominent letting agents in the area where we focus on the corporate sector. Our strengths lie in our stable family of which we have been with us for several years.

For an informal discussion, strictly in confidence contact the Director of Lettings, 200 Gloucester Road, London, 0181 940 9200 or 0181 872 5777 (answer line).

**La Creme**  
LA CREME RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

### DON'T SINK...FLOAT! £20,500 + Benefits

Transform your daily chores of an average secretarial position by adding variety to the working week. Working in various areas of law will put the spark back into your life, ask any float! We have several opportunities for work for the top law firms based in Central London. Excellent salaries & benefits are on offer. Call Sharron Brightwell on 0171 374 4298.

### EXPANDING CITY PRACTICE £21,000 PLUS PERKS

This reputable law firm based in Liverpool is looking for good legal sees. You will have ideally 18 months legal experience in litigation, conveyancing or corporate banking. You will qualify for an attractive bonus package which includes ST1, bonus scheme, pension, health insurance and subsidised gym. Please call Ian Castle on 0171 374 4298.

### FORTMAN

legal 0171 - 374 4298

### PA/ADMINISTRATOR

For West-End based British subsidiary of leading German fashion company. Applicants must have a good command of spoken and written German, be familiar with Word for Windows & Excel and have proven secretarial and administrative skills. Duties will include day-to-day management of a busy office, liaison with suppliers, staff and clients; some travel work as well as secretarial support for the M.D.

Salary from £17,000. Commencement: July '96.

Applications in writing only, to:

Margaret Key, Steinmann (UK) Ltd.  
54 Great Marlborough Street, London W1V 1DD.

## Regus

### BUSINESS CENTRE MANAGERS

#### £Competitive Package

#### LOCATIONS: LONDON/UK/EUROPE

As one of the world's largest independent providers of premier business centres, Regus Management offers opportunities in 700 locations in 30 countries in over 50 countries. 1995/96 will see extensive and aggressive expansion worldwide. As a result, opportunities are now available for experienced business centre managers to join our expanding network of offices in a number of areas of the world.

In areas of our established offices, as well as within a high degree of autonomy, Accountants will be required to manage, maintain and develop their business centres.

If you are interested in this opportunity, please call or write to:

Emma Hodder, Contract Supervisor,  
48 Lodge Circus, London EC4M 7LD.

Tel: 0171 383 7898.

**MANPOWER**

There's more for you

The National Sales  
Team of a blue chip  
multinational firm  
require a dynamic and  
ambitious PA to

provide full administrative and secretarial support. If you have strong organisational skills, can work to tight deadlines but remain calm under pressure, are self-motivated and enjoy using your initiative, please call or write to:

Emma Hodder, Contract Supervisor,  
48 Lodge Circus, London EC4M 7LD.

Tel: 0171 383 7898.

### Hammersmith

£20,000 + exc bens.

A major international company requires two secretaries to work in its Marketing and International department. In return for excellent skills you'll be working in a friendly and sociable environment where enthusiasm and initiative are encouraged. These challenging roles will offer involvement and variety on a daily basis. Preferably you'll have Word for Windows, Excel and PowerPoint, 55wpm typing min.

Call Caroline Galan in the City office.

**LA CREME**

RECRUITMENT

### URGENT!

Temp to £10 per hour

Summer holidays have started early despite the recent cold snap and we are inundated with temp bookings. We require professional and flexible secretaries available for both long and short term assignments, starting now!

If you have 50wpm typing and good knowledge of WP systems please telephone

CITY - Lisa, Victoria or Kim

0171 377 9919

WEST END - Gillian, Liz or Holly

0171 437 6032

**LA CREM**

RECRUITMENT

**EXPERIENCED  
SECRETARY  
PUTNEY SW15**

Required for busy Planning  
Department of long-established  
property company based in Putney.

Excellent opportunities for  
promotion and career development.

Excellent benefits. Pleasant office  
with parking available. Non  
smoker essential.

Tel: 0181 875 1199

**SECRETARY -  
KNIGHTSBRIDGE**

May start energetic 20-30 year  
old to help property management  
office

Apply to: H. Hodder  
0171 228 0022

Fax: 0171 228 4191

**ROYAL THAMES YACHT CLUB**

requires a  
SAILING SECRETARY

Must have good secretarial (W4W) and communication

skills and sailing experience. Happy to run a busy office in

Knightsbridge four days a week and make an active

contribution to the race team most weekends during

the season. Contact us for a Job Description:

Tel: 0171 235 2121 Fax: 0171 245 9470

**Young PA  
Recruitment**

£16,500 &  
Bonus

This successful West End

recruiting firm requires a

highly organised

individual who wishes to

get fully involved.

Supporting a young

clientele, you will liaise

with clients, co-ordinate

and handle all of the

administration/ advertising.

Smart presentation is

essential as is the ability

to liaise at all levels.

Skills: W4W/ WP experience.

Please call: Venessa

Macmillan 0171 399 7000

**La Creme Corkill**

Training Course Advisor

£18,000

For the best recruitment service, 4 weeks

and 12 months contract

and 12 months contract

and 12 months contract

and 12

**True PA**  
£22,000 + bens.  
Chelsea Harbour

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**Crone Corkill**  
Recruitment Consultants

**Advertising Dream**

Secretary to Finance Director - c£22,000  
European Role in Advertising Agency

This is quite simply a position with one of the very top Advertising Agencies in the World. It's an International Company which offers rewards which are amongst the best in Secretarial in London. This post is as high profile as you can get, working in a demanding environment for the most senior Finance Officer in Europe. He will utilise your hard-earned skills to the full whilst you fulfil your ambition of working in the very top. You'll probably be aged between 25-35 with at least 2 years' experience of working in a solid Company at this level, possibly with experience gained in a Financial or Management Consultancy environment, although this is by no means essential.

Call Natalie or Jill Now on 0171 240 0040/0240 or fax them on 0171 240 1888.  
The Evolution Agency Limited,  
17 Tivoli St, Covent Garden, London WC2E 7PK.

**MAINE + TUCKER**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

**GUILDFORD**  
A VALUED SIDEKICK!

Up to 18,000

In the heart of Guildford lies a fantastic opportunity to work with a respected legal consultant, (car-driver less). You'll need confident skills, fast typing (70wpm) and excellent software (WP for Windows, and other softs), but anything else you can bring to the table (i.e. legal exp., spreadsheets etc) is welcome. Most importantly you must be flexible, prepared to work long hours if necessary and be articulate and quick minded to understand the business. It is a position that will require you to converse and adapt to clients' needs and requirements according to the situation. This is a very proactive role, where you will be given an opportunity to design and shape the position as you become more familiar with the role.

24-25 Jonathan Street, St. James's, London SW1Y 6HP  
Telephone: 0171 531 7541 Fax: 0171 534 3260

**OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR**

Futures and options trading firm seeks an energetic office administrator with a minimum of 3 years of industry experience. The successful candidates must be meticulous, computer literate and able to work well under pressure. A degree, foreign language skills and a professional, value-charge attitude are required. Experience in all phases of financial management and compliance is desired. We offer growth potential and a competitive salary/benefit package. Please send c.v. with salary history to:

Box No 6086

**PA to Director**  
Mayfair  
£20,000

Our client, a well established multi-national company, based in stunning offices in the heart of Mayfair seek an exceptional PA to support a charismatic director. He needs a superb right hand person, who is resourceful, committed and naturally proactive and can successfully deal with the fast paced world of commodity broking. Knowledge of trade or shipping a distinct advantage. If you love working in a truly cosmopolitan environment have excellent secretarial skills, age 28-38, please call Susanna Hargreaves on 0171 434 4512.

**Crone Corkill**  
Recruitment Consultants

**RECRUITMENT ASSISTANT**  
£10-12 p.h.

Are you an ambitious graduate with two years experience in finance or marketing looking for a career move into graduate recruitment who can work under pressure, wants autonomy and can offer Windows experience together with a team approach? You can look forward to excellent prospects, European travel and an immediate start.

Please call Ruth Weinraub on 0171 638 9991.

**Elizabeth Hunt**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

**ARCHITECTS, W14**

Administrative PA needed for the Finance Director and Partnership Secretary of architectural practice. Willingness to undertake cheerfully a variety of tasks with initiative and confidentiality. Excellent skills required - up to 60 wpm (WPS) and some shorthand. Age 25-35, salary c£17,000.

Please reply with CV to:

Connagh Nation, Chapman Taylor Partners, 364 Kensington High Street, London W14 8NS.  
Fax No. 0171 371 1949.

**Training Course Administrator**  
£18,000

Working for this major international consulting company you will have total responsibility for the co-ordination of a range of training courses. Min 4 years experience in an admin/sec role and confident manner are essential. Word, Excel & PowerPoint pref. Call Alison Helps on 0171-437 6032.

**ALL BOX NUMBER REPLIES SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO: BOX No. \_\_\_\_\_**

c/o THE TIMES NEWSPAPERS  
P.O. BOX 3553, VIRGINIA ST,  
LONDON, E1 9BA

**Stop Searching**  
£22,000 + Big Bonus  
West End

Start Headhunting! Two delightful Partners of a leading International company seek a top level secretary to assist them with their varied and fascinating work. Lots of client and candidate contact combined with arranging meetings and organising diaries. This is a busy role for someone with fast skills (100/65/stdio/wps), a sound cv and good sense of humour, who enjoys never having a dull moment. Some city/financial experience essential. Age 25-35. Please call Elizabeth Wood on 0171-434 4512.

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**True PA**  
£22,000 + bens.  
Chelsea Harbour

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NBA's Most Valuable Player nets 45 points to complete 4-0 rout

## Genius of Jordan nullifies Magic in one-man show

After the game was over, they streamed out of the O-reans into the fierce late afternoon sun. Some of them headed for the shade of a cluster of palm trees, others stood waiting in the heat for the players to emerge. Almost all of them clutched cardboard signs proclaiming that they believed in Magic. On Monday afternoon, they had seen it with their own eyes.

This was no sophistry, either. This was the real thing, sporting achievement so sublime that it transcends the normal boundaries and exceeds the usual expectations. It was like watching Ayrton Senna on a hot lap or Diego Maradona dribbling through a defence. To borrow a little basketball parlance, when Michael Jordan "comes up big", it ranks right up there with the great sights in sport.

On Monday, he beat the Orlando Magic practically on his own to complete the Chicago Bulls' 4-0 rout in the Eastern Conference finals of the National Basketball Association (NBA) championship. Everybody said so; no one dissented. Not even the home fans complained. They shook their heads from time to time in bewilderment but mostly they just marvelled at the man.

Every time he got the ball with his back to the man guarding him, Jordan swivelled, leant slightly backwards to give himself space to arch his shot over the outstretched hands of his rival and released the ball. Only once did he miss. The rest bulged the net without even touching the rim. He scored 45 of his team's 106 points, more than three times the total of any of his teammates.

"In games like this, it is very easy to get carried away with the adrenalin, to get too pumped up," Jordan said. "So

Oliver Holt, in Orlando, sees one of the finest individual basketball displays of all time

I just sat back and saw how the others were playing. I did not force the issue. I just let the game come to me."

All this against the Magic, too, the brave new team that is supposed to have the NBA at its mercy. Led by the giant Shaquille O'Neal, they have been hyped as the team of the year, but they had no answer to Jordan.

"I was pleased with the way we played today," Brian Hill, the Magic coach, said. "But unfortunately there was a guy wearing No 23 out there and we could not overcome what he did. We shut down everyone else but not him. That is the greatness of Michael Jordan."

Earlier this week, Jordan was named the NBA's Most Valuable Player for the fifth time. In his first full year back after flitting with minor league baseball, he led the Bulls to a regular season record of 72 wins and ten defeats, easily surpassing the best previous mark. They have lost only one game in the playoffs and now only the Seattle SuperSonics or the Utah Jazz stand between him and a fourth NBA title. Jordan is back and better than ever.

Last week, though, he made it clear that genius has a price. He becomes a free agent at the end of the season, able to entertain offers for his talents. He wants to stay with the Bulls, but he wants them to pay him \$18 million a season for the next two years for the privilege. It sounds a lot, but the consensus here is that Chicago should snatch his hand off.

"Having Michael in the team is like coaching Michelangelo," Phil Jackson, the Bulls coach, said. "He is a genius at what he does. I don't know what worth is in this game. I don't deal with balance sheets. But I do know this: if anybody gets paid money in this league, Michael Jordan deserves it."

The feats of Jordan have dragged attention away, for the moment at least, from his outrageous team-mate, Dennis Rodman, he of the pierced scrotum and ever-changing

Even though he is already the world's highest-paid sports star, earning more than \$40 million a year through endorsements from companies like Nike, McDonald's and Gatorade, he only earned a salary of \$3.9 million from the Bulls this season.

That put him outside the top

15 in the list of highest-paid players in the league this season. Patrick Ewing, of the New York Knicks, heads that list with \$18.7 million. O'Neal is in seventh place with \$5.7 million, but he, too, is about to become a free agent and is asking the Magic for \$100 million to stay there for the next six years.

It is Jordan, though, who is the jewel in the NBA crown.

Since he joined the Bulls in 1984, he has transformed them from an anonymous team into the best-supported club in the league. They built a new stadium, the United Center, on the back of the success he brought and placed a statue of him in front of it so that there could be no doubt. The last 434 games there have been sold out. Each of the top five games screened by NBC this season has featured the Bulls.

"Having Michael in the team is like coaching Michelangelo," Phil Jackson, the Bulls coach, said. "He is a genius at what he does. I don't know what worth is in this game. I don't deal with balance sheets. But I do know this: if anybody gets paid money in this league, Michael Jordan deserves it."

The feats of Jordan have dragged attention away, for the moment at least, from his outrageous team-mate, Dennis Rodman, he of the pierced scrotum and ever-changing

hair colours. But in his new book, *Bad as I Wanna Be*, Rodman even takes time off from discussing the intimacies of his failed relationship with Madonna to moan about player salaries in general and his own paltry \$3 million annual

recompence. "I've come to realise we are the prostitutes," he says. "We are professional prostitutes, wearing a game jersey and a uniform. If we have already established what we are, the only thing left is to discuss the price."

"For five years, I have felt like the best prostitute in a high-class whorehouse. I'm the one who brings the house all the johns and all the money but every year it's the same all the other girls get paid more than I do."

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THE TIMES WEDNESDAY MAY 29 1996

RACING 43

Proposals put forward to end practice of coupling runners

## France plans to reform betting system

BY JULIAN MUSCAT

FRANCE-GALOP, the country's racing authority, has taken steps to abandon the practice of coupling horses for betting purposes in time for the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe at Longchamp on October 6.

The move will be welcomed by the 20,000 British racegoers who habitually attend the Arc, and who are often caught out by the coupling procedure. Horses owned by the same individual are grouped together as one entry in French betting pools. This necessarily diminishes the odds, particularly when owners like Sheikh Mohammed may have three or four fancies runners in the race.

The mechanism has led to heated confrontations between unknowing victims of the practice and those running betting terminals. But proposals to abandon coupling are to be endorsed by France-Galop and forwarded to the Ministry of Agriculture for ratification. It is hoped the introduction of individual odds for each runner will be in place by September 1.

French racing is labouring against the popularity of a country's National Lottery, and the move to abandon coupling forms part of a wider strategy to generate interest in horse racing. The experiment granting free admission to racegoers on selected days has seen attendances rise by 40 per cent, although similar increases in betting turnover have not been forthcoming.

In a separate development, triggered by events in last year's Arc, France-Galop has made it mandatory for connections to declare whether they are running any of their



Carnegie, near side, wins the 1994 Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe, but his odds were reduced because he was coupled with three unplaced runners

horses as a pacemaker. Even though he ran in different colours, all the evidence surrounding Luso's Arc participation in October suggested he was sacrificed for Lammaur's cause.

Those who backed Luso

confirmed that Forte's three-year contract to sponsor the Arc will be honoured with the same financial commitments as before Forte's takeover by Granada earlier this year. The race will be run as the Forte/Meridien Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe.

Horses trained in Britain are responsible for 55 — some 36 per cent — of the 155 Arc entries this year. Paul Cole is preparing Riyadhan for the race and said the colt would

have a maximum of one run before the championship contest. Interesting omissions are Nash House and Parasan.

Willie Carson now intends to appeal against the five-day ban imposed on him after he wore an unapproved helmet when landing the Irish 1,000 aboard Matiya last Saturday. His appeal will be heard in the Turf Club's offices at the Curragh tomorrow. As things stand, Carson misses the Oaks a week on Friday but would

return to partner Almearth in the Derby the next day.

One of Almearth's opponents will be Mick's Love. The Godolphin runner was yesterday withdrawn from Sunday's Prix du Jockey-Club in favour of Epsom, where he will be ridden by John Murtagh. Godolphin may yet be represented in France by Don Mischeleto, while Peter Chapple-Hyam is considering supplementing his Chester Vase winner, High Baroque.

French racing is labouring

against the popularity of a country's National Lottery, and the move to abandon coupling forms part of a wider strategy to generate interest in horse racing. The experiment granting free admission to racegoers on selected days has seen attendances rise by 40 per cent, although similar increases in betting turnover have not been forthcoming.

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are running any of their

### FOLKESTONE

THUNDERER

2.15 Canovas Heart. 2.45 Topaz. 3.15 Silver Hunter. 3.45 Wet Patch. 4.15 Miles. 4.45 Rockville Pike. 5.15 Stone Islands.

GOING: GOOD DRAW: 5F-6F, LOW NUMBERS BEST TOTE JACKPOT MEETING SIS

### 2.15 BREDE HANDICAP (23,343; 50) (15 runners)

101 3342 FRIENDLY BRAVE 7 (C.J.F.G.) Min G Kilkenny 5-12. 102 1254 CANOVAS HEART 9 (D.B.B.) Min G Kilkenny 5-12. 103 1602 SORCE CROWN 10 (D.J. H. H. H.) Min G Kilkenny 4-9. 104 1250 BARRACKS 26 (M.C.) Min G Kilkenny 4-9. 105 1203 BARRACKS 26 (M.C.) Min G Kilkenny 4-9. 106 1214 BARRACKS 26 (M.C.) Min G Kilkenny 4-9. 107 1214 BARRACKS 26 (M.C.) Min G Kilkenny 4-9. 108 1214 BARRACKS 26 (M.C.) Min G Kilkenny 4-9. 109 1214 BARRACKS 26 (M.C.) Min G Kilkenny 4-9. 110 1214 BARRACKS 26 (M.C.) Min G Kilkenny 4-9. 111 1214 BARRACKS 26 (M.C.) Min G Kilkenny 4-9. 112 1214 BARRACKS 26 (M.C.) Min G Kilkenny 4-9. 113 504 LILYS PRESENT 21 (D.G.B.) M Ryan 3-3. 114 1200 DISTANT DYNASTY 19 (D.P.) P. Farrel 7-10. 115 1200 MY OTHERS LOCAL 29 (K) C. S. S. 3-7. 116 1200 MY OTHERS LOCAL 29 (K) C. S. S. 3-7. 117 5-1 Mazzeo, 6-1 Fratelli S. Inc. 7-1 S. S. Corleone, 8-1 S. S. Corleone, 10-1 Mazzeo, 11-1 S. S. Corleone.

1-2 What Happened You, 5-2 Miser Pk, 6-1 S. S. Corleone, 7-1 S. S. Corleone, 10-1 Mazzeo.

### 2.45 HOTEL BIRMINGHAM MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES (2-Y-O; 23,234; 60) (14)

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# Brown's horizons must not be limited by England



Fairbrother: miscast

A trend is taking hold in English cricket that is unlikely, in the long term, to be to its advantage. Players are being prematurely labelled as either one-day specialists or Test match technicians, whereas in fact the best at one are much the most likely to be, or to become, the best at the other.

The World Cup, the blue riband of the one-day game, has always been won by countries playing their Test sides. West Indies fielded theirs when they won at Lord's in 1975 and 1979, as did India when they won there in 1983, and Australia when they won in Calcutta in 1987, and Pakistan in Melbourne in 1992, and Sri Lanka in Lahore in 1996.

England, on the other hand, seem increasingly to be categorising their up-and-coming players, almost mak-

ing two separate species of them, and I am not at all sure that is wise.

An early example was the case of Neil Fairbrother. I well remember the day at Lord's in 1991 when Denis Compton opened the stands named after himself and Bill Edrich during the lunch interval of a one-day international. England were playing West Indies, who were still a considerable force, and they won because of a wonderful innings by Fairbrother. He made 113 in 107 balls and in poor light, and into the bargain he sparkled. In the

field. Having seen a player after his own heart, Compton said to one of the England selectors: "Bravo, we've found a class batsman". Ah, but only in one-day cricket," came the reply, or words to that effect.

After a disappointing start to



**John Woodcock** believes the categorisation of players is detrimental in the long term

his Test career, Fairbrother had already been branded, and although the first Test match of that summer started only ten days later he was chosen neither for that nor for any of the other four. It gave him not only a reputation but also, arguably, a complex which he has never really thrown off.

The latest potential victim of this syndrome is, of course, Alistair Brown, who was presented with a task at the Oval last Thursday that would have been beyond most attacking batsmen. Hitting a bowler of Jagaval Srinath's experience and ability into the open spaces, with the new ball

moving about as it was then, would have tested Gilbert Jessop or Learie Constantine or Charlie Barnett, three ideal "pinch-hitters" for you, let alone a freshman finding his way. Brown is "fresh from Natur's mould".

No doubt there is work to be done on his technique, but as he showed at Old Trafford on Monday, he is some striker of a cricket ball. There is not much of him, but what there is very strong; he has a good eye, and at 26 he is not too young and he is not too old. He has, what is more, a batting average of 45 from his first 65 first-class matches and that is much more likely to

signify a player of consequence than a mere adventurer. If Brown has the temperament and the will to learn, and he tightens a few screws, he could become a kind of cricketing Ian Woosnam, who grew accustomed to being underestimated as a professional golfer.

In this country, Sanath Jayasuriya, Sri Lanka's pride and joy and the toast of the World Cup this year, would have been a strong candidate for being dismissed in his youth as a one-day pinch-hitter and brought out just for one-day internationals, much like Fairbrother. Yet not six weeks before rattling up 82 in 44 balls against England at Faisalabad in March, he made 48 and 112 in a Test match against Australia in Adelaide. Given the right encouragement and the opportunity, he can play both games, different though they may be, and so, I believe, could Brown.

After England's victory at Old Trafford on Monday, Michael Atherton said that the selectors will have "entirely different priorities in mind" when they choose their teams for the forthcoming Test matches. Matthew Maynard, another player with real flair, and Brown, despite his defiant hundred, must have felt as if they had been told that they were not scholarship material, but that when there was another Texaco one-day quiz it would be nice to have them along. If the scholarship side were themselves doing better, that might not have jarred quite as it did; even so, this idea of labelling players seems to me divisive — and not something to become understood.



Brown: misunderstood

**Yorkshire secure semi-final place**

## Byas walks tall in crushing defeat of Surrey

By MICHAEL HENDERSON

**THE OVAL** (Yorkshire won toss; Yorkshire beat Surrey by nine wickets)

YORKSHIRE walked all over Surrey yesterday and, after the way Surrey have started the season, that is quite an achievement. The man who left the biggest footprints was their captain, David Byas, who won the gold award for his first century in the Benson and Hedges Cup, and his best score in one-day cricket. On this showing, Yorkshire need fear nobody.

Byas, aided by Vaughan and then by Bevan, made the Surrey bowling look very ordinary and, to be frank, much of it was. By the end of a day that began under the sun and ended under lowering skies and the threat of rain, Surrey looked a rabble at times. It took Lewis all of seven minutes to bowl his sixth over, by which time the game was well and truly won and lost. Much good those deliberations did him.

Bevan, even more than Byas, is the key man in this maturing Yorkshire side. He has assumed the role of overseas player with a confidence that has clearly infected the younger members of a well-balanced team and he was at his withering best here. He took five leg-side boundaries from Benjamin's last over as though by right, illustrating the difference in class that separated the teams. There were 125 overs left when he swung the winning runs over mid-wicket.

Byas began the day well, winning the toss and giving his bowlers first use of a pitch that offered them some assistance. No ball misbehaved but there was something for the



Byas: one-day best

man who constantly landed the ball on a good length. Later, Lewis produced an absolute snorter with his first ball to Vaughan, but neither he nor the other Surrey bowlers hit that patch often enough. The Yorkshiremen observed a better length and, no less significantly, found a tighter line.

Although Yorkshire's fielding was not flawless — Byas missed Brown at slip early on — the Surrey batsmen were in a benevolent mood. Ward and Brown drove straightforward catches. Stewart played on trying to cut a ball that was too close for the stroke to be executed safely and Hollis was leg-before to Stump's second ball, his bat outside the line of one that straightened.

Thorpe held the fort all too briefly and when Stump bowled him by pushing the ball through quicker and fuller, Surrey surrendered their last authentic batsman. Lewis contributed 32 useful runs, and there were some successful strokes from the Bicknells, but a score of 229 never looked adequate.

No matter how Stewart jugged his bowlers the changes had little effect. Bevan took two strides down the pitch to Pearson, the off spinner, and singed the bowler's whiskers with a drive that bounced back from the pavilion gates. The next ball, which was not a half volley, was driven beautifully past extra cover, along the ground. It was proper batting.

When he made 93 Byas reached his highest score in the competition and his century came from 85 balls with 16 fours. Together Byas and Bevan added 136 in 22 overs and played with a comfort that made light of their task. Surrey, who won all four of their group matches, had been routed.

Sir Donald Bradman, whose greatness as a cricketer has been matched by his stubbornness in rejecting offers to do lengthy television interviews, will be the subject of a two-hour programme, *Don Bradman — 87 Not Out*, in Australia today. He will appear in a face-to-face interview with Ray Martin, having been persuaded to do so to play to suggest that they can pull this match out of the fire.

What play there was saw some outstanding batting, the highlights of which were one superb "orthodox" one-day innings from the in-form Rob

Silverwood, who took three wickets two to catches off his own bowling, once again revealing his promise.

Stewart summoned his men for a huddle when Surrey took the field and before long they were in a muddle. Byas and Vaughan did not tear into the bowling but, because so much of it was misdirected, they found boundaries at their leisure. By the time Vaughan drove Benjamin to Lewis in the gully in the fifteenth over, the openers had shared 94 runs.

The distinction of Byas's innings was his driving, particularly his straight driving. He went to 50 in 39 balls, finding the ropes eight times, the seventh a drive off the back foot through mid-off. Darren Bicknell was feeling rather foolish by then, having missed a chance Byas offered when he was 15. The ball reached Bicknell at a good height and he got both hands to it so it was a bad miss.

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American's brave comeback attempt cut short at scene of former glory

# French fervour fails to fire Capriati

FROM DAVID MILLER IN PARIS

YOU could not tell whether Jennifer Capriati was near to tears when she lost to Jing-Qing Yi, an unknown Chinese, but I know that I was. Capriati's tale is one of the most poignant in sport.

Yesterday, returning to the French championships where, in 1990, at the age of 14½ she had become the youngest Grand Slam semi-finalist, she vainly tried to piece together her latest comeback. Yi, who had never seen a game of tennis when instructed to take up the game by her school in Nanjing at the age of eight, defeated her 6-3, 7-5.

That was little different from when Capriati's proprietorial father, Stefano, launched his infant daughter with a racket, aged only three. So relentlessly successful was that production line, that the girl had contracts worth \$6 million before she hit her first professional ball at the age of 14.

By 17, she was deep in emotional chaos. Three years on from that, rescued, one must hope, from drug experimenting and a social disorientation, she is clinging to the



Capriati: faults proliferated

## RESULTS FROM PARIS

### Men

**SINGLES:** First round: J Tarango (USA) bt M Damm (Cz) 4-6, 6-2, 6-3; M Wieland (Switzerland) bt J-P Faurean (Fr) 7-5, 6-3; M Philpot (USA) bt A Volkov (Russia) 6-3, 6-4, 6-3; J Hanevold (USA) bt H Li (China) 6-3, 6-1, 6-2; M Alcaraz (Spain) bt S Weingarten (USA) 6-3, 6-2, 6-4; M Hradec (Czech) bt T Hanneken (GB) 6-4, 7-5, 6-4; A Kuznetsov (Russia) bt D Goffin (Bel) 6-3, 6-2, 6-3; M Rousmaniere (Switzerland) bt C-J Stubb (Norway) 6-4, 6-0, 6-2; J Novak (Cz) bt P Perez (Venez) 6-2, 6-4, 6-1; S Ruzicka (Czech) bt D Goffin (Bel) 6-2, 6-3; T Mustac (Austria) bt F Fetterman (Den) 6-4, 6-2, 6-4; H Dreschner (Ges) bt C Rauf (Norway) 6-4, 6-3, 6-0; G Forger (Fr) 6-4, 6-2, 6-4; J-P Faurean (Fr) 6-4, 6-2, 6-4; P Kratzsch (Austria) bt S Novotny (Czech) 6-7, 6-1, 6-4; F Mantilla (Sp) bt D Dier (Ges) 6-4, 6-2, 6-7, 6-4; T Chmelik (Czech) 6-3, 6-2, 6-4; S Stach (Czech) 6-3, 6-2, 6-4; M Tlakocan (Czech) 6-3, 6-1, 6-1; M Tlakocan (Czech) 6-3, 6-2, 6-4; S Llambias (Spain) bt S Shulman (USA) 6-2, 6-3, 6-4; A Gaudenzi (It) bt K Tilkkanen (Fin) 6-3, 6-1, 6-1; M Tlakocan (Czech) bt Costa (Portugal) 6-4, 6-2, 6-1; J-A Arribalzaga (Spain) bt J-L Altimir (Spain) 6-4, 6-3, 6-3; A Sastoch (Pol) bt J Palmer (USA) 6-3, 6-4, 6-3; B Karbacher (Ges) bt G Perez-Fidalen (Arg) 6-2, 6-4, 6-4; R Pernfors (Austria) bt D Delbonis (Arg) 6-3, 6-2, 6-4; J-A Arribalzaga (Spain) bt S Stach (Czech) 6-1, 6-2, 6-1; M Cheng (USA) bt D Peris (Catal) 6-2, 6-1, 6-2; M Knowles (USA) bt D Norman (Baff) 6-7, 6-3, 6-4; J-A Arribalzaga (Spain) bt S Stach (Czech) 6-1, 6-2, 6-4; C Martinez (Sp) bt E Collazo (Catal) 6-1, 6-1.

wreckage of what was potentially the most illustrious women's career ever, a threat to the records of Wills, Connolly, Court, King and Navratilova.

The French crowd, whose hearts had bled on Monday evening at the departure of Henri Leconte now offered the arm of condolence to the struggling Capriati. "Jeh-ni-fer", chanted eager schoolgirls, in the welcome sunshine. It was all to no avail.

The girl once hit forehands of which you dream

could not rediscover that talent. The first serve did not function, double faults proliferated, and though occasionally the forehand set expectation slightly, too often it was long or wide. When she broke, Yi's service to level the second set at 5-5, the buzz spread around Roland Garros. Yet two double faults immediately scuppered her, and she gave away the first of two match points when squandering an open forehand at the net.

Afterwards, the sadness of her dilemma was all too evident. Some may dismiss her as intellectually limited, yet here was a veteran child, aged only 20, emotionally treading water, unsure who she is, or where she is going. How desperately she needs honest friends, perhaps near to her own age, ready to give rather than take.

As she looked around her, searching within for honest answers to mostly friendly questions, she seemed lost. She was a little rusty, she said, modestly, "It's going to take practice and determination to be where I would like to be. It's not easy."

She was nervous, she admitted, returning to the scene of her first Grand Slam event. "I do feel a lot of emotions, and I let them get to me. I didn't know what to expect." Yes, she would love this summer to go back to the Olympic Games, in which she beat Steffi Graf for the gold medal four years ago, aged 16. The United States Tennis Association can only nominate her if they do so ahead of other, superior, contenders.

At 14, she was the youngest to be ranked in the top ten, and to be seeded at Wimbledon (12th). A year later, in 1991, she became the youngest semi-finalist at Wimbledon, beating Navratilova on the way, and likewise at the US Open. By 1992, she had become the youngest, at 16, to earn a million dollars in prize-money. Today, she is ranked 106. One must hope she can find a contented future.

Yi, who is 22, pays half her prize-money to the government, 15 per cent to the National Federation. Motivation? "To be out there is still a joy," she said. "I love the game too much to step away from it."

Greg Rusedski, Britain's borrowed Canadian, pro-



Rear-of-court view, as the line umpire watches Steffi Graf preparing to receive serve

duced one of the finest conclusions to any match all day, late in the evening against Grant Doyle, of Australia. It was the first five-set victory in Rusedski's career — never mind that Doyle is ranked 310.

The Briton, however, immediately double-faulted, and Doyle went on to level the match two sets all. Rusedski was 20 behind in the final set, broke back for 2-2 and then, revealing the stronger will, consistently held his serve. He missed his first match-point at 5-4, but then played the perfect game on Doyle's next service with a smash and stop-volley. Doyle surrendered on a final double-fault. Rusedski now meets Michael Stich, the No 15 seed.

There had been a dramatic moment mid-way through the match in the twelfth game of the third set, when Rusedski played a scrambled, retrieving shot from the baseline backwards between his legs, and a surprised Doyle put his return into the net.

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## Lennon still a force in gale

BY EDWARD GORMAN, SAILING CORRESPONDENT

MIKE LENNON demonstrated that light and variable conditions are not the only ones in which he can excel when he won the last race in the Melges 24 class of the Rover Series in a gale at Tarbert yesterday.

Lennon won the class convincingly with Roger Peacock's Cavendish Cool Cats

second — a good result in his first Melges regatta — and Jim Slater's Pigs Eye third.

The final race turned into a test of crew commitment and gear as the wind built steadily before the start. Only eight of the original 16 boats crossed the line and only five finished after three re-runs with assorted gear failures.

It had been a good series for Lennon, a sailmaker from Southend, who numbers his wife, Gabriella, among his crew. Lennon will defend his British title in the class at Brixham in September.

He showed superior speed in almost all conditions over the six-race series and displayed tactical acumen in the shifting winds that characterised the first two days.

For Peacock, Tarbert has been an exhilarating introduction to top-class one-design racing. A company director, Peacock, 49, has done little sailing but decided to buy a Melges after meeting Jim Scherdt, the class manager.

Scherdt found him a young and talented crew — Dave Johnson, Simon Liddington and Fred Kemp are all students in their early 20s — and this week they have gained one first place, one second, one third and two fourths.

One exciting if dangerous moment for Peacock came in the first race on Monday when he fell overboard as his boat approached the wing mark for the second time. Bedford, following behind, went into rescue mode and pulled a starved Peacock aboard *Glenfiddich*, where he introduced himself.

Yesterday, Peacock reflected on a strong opening to his Melges campaign. "It's fantastic," he said. "It's really all down to the others in the crew. I can't take the credit for it because it's their sailing experience which has got us where we are."

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## Victorious Scotland still need to improve

Wanganui 13  
Scotland 49

FROM MARK SOISTER  
IN WANGANUI

SCOTLAND fly to Whangerei later today to play Northland on Friday in the second match of the rugby union tour of New Zealand. An eventful opening week has seen the team experience a fire at their hotel, an earthquake which measured 6.8 on the Richter scale and the threat of a volcanic eruption from nearby Mount Ruapehu.

No disaster befall them at Cooks Garden yesterday, although the manner of the victory did raise questions about the side's ability to cope against the ultimate challenge of the All Blacks. However, it was the first game of the expedition, the team had played very little rugby for a month and seven tries were scored against a side which, although the weakest they will face, still wanted to prove a point. Also in their defence, this floodlit match was the first that Scotland had played under-new laws which, among

other things, stipulate that the back row must remain bound to the scrum.

Jim Telfer, the manager, rated the win "seven out of ten". Richie Dixon, the coach, and Gregor Townsend, the captain, were less charitable. "It was a reasonable enough beginning," Dixon said. "But we have a lot of work to do on winning the ball on the deck and we have got to go back to some more lethal rucking."

Townsend described it as a "stereotypical opening tour match". He said: "There were a lot of mistakes, and the home team were up for it. Hopefully, we learn a lot tonight. We did a lot of good things but there were a lot of unforced errors."

SCOTLAND: J Johnson, R Gedye, J Horan, G Lenihan, A Negus, E Holmes, S Brown, A Bull, M Ward, J Gaultier, K Whetton, E Peters, S Murray (Capt), S Lang (Horn), C John (Lockets), G Smith (Metros), I G Treadaway (Northland), S captain, D Mullen (Baff), K McFerren (Shire), B Stewart (Glenfiddich), D Cawdron (Bull), S Murray (Metros), E Peters (Baff). Referee: A Riley.

WANGANUI: J Johnson, R Gedye, J Horan, G Lenihan, A Negus, E Holmes, S Brown, A Bull, M Ward, J Gaultier, K Whetton, E Peters, S Murray (Capt), S Lang (Horn), C John (Lockets), G Smith (Metros), I G Treadaway (Northland), S captain, D Mullen (Baff), K McFerren (Shire), B Stewart (Glenfiddich), D Cawdron (Bull), S Murray (Metros), E Peters (Baff). Referee: A Riley.

## WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 45

(c) In Indian religions, one who has attained perfection, a semi-divine being, specifically in Jainism, a perfected, bodiless being freed from the cycle of rebirths. "All who are initiated into this system (sc. Jainism) are styled 'beasts' (pasu), the initiated being called siddha, the 'perfected' ones."

(b) An ultramafic intrusive igneous rock composed essentially of orthorhombic and monoclinic pyroxenes. The toponym of Webster is the name of a village in North Carolina.

STRANDLOOPER

(d) A member of a people, related to the Bushmen and Hottentots, living on the southern shores of South Africa from prehistoric times until the present millennium. From the Dutch/Afrikaans *strand* + *looper* walker.

TAMIZDAT

(a) Russian writings published abroad and smuggled back into the USSR. Russian publications moving outwards in the opposite direction were *sunzhat*. From *lum* there + *zhat* to move + *sunzhat*, ie both unofficial Soviet and émigré publications.

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Qg6! Jg5 2 Rh4 and Rg8 mate is unstoppable.

## Calvert on target

Rifle shooting Squadron Leader David Calvert, commanding officer of Cambridge University air squadron and a Commonwealth Games gold medal-winner, won the Irish open rifle championship at Ballykinlar from Hugh Kilpatrick, of East Scotland.

Calvert on target

Rifle shooting Squadron Leader David Calvert, commanding officer of Cambridge University air squadron and a Commonwealth Games gold medal-winner, won the Irish open rifle championship at Ballykinlar from Hugh Kilpatrick, of East Scotland.

Italian double

Cycling: Rolando Massi, of the Ceramiche Refin team, broke away to win the 164km tenth stage of the Giro D'Italia from Arezzo to Prato.

David Rebello, another Italian, retained the overall lead by finishing in a bunch four seconds behind Massi.

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